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EGAN SHOCK

EDITORIAL

As regrettable as Charlie Egan's attitude is to the national team, it does raise serious questions about the progress being made by the Australian Soccer Federation in preparing for the World Cup qualifying series which starts in September.

We say regrettable because loyalty is and always has been an unwritten law at this level of competition.

The question that must be asked is: Would Egan have taken the same attitude towards his club, South Melbourne Hellas, if he had gripes about the way the team was being run?

And would Egan be taking this strong stance if he had established himself as Australia's No. 1 striker on the tour?

Consequences

On the other hand, he must have thought long and hard about the consequences of his statements. Just as surely as his Hellas team-mate, John Zdenek, was ostracised over the infamous Gutendorf Tapas episode, so Egan will be locked out of the inner sanctum.

It must therefore be assumed that his decision was prompted by a desire to help change things for the better.

Players have had public wrangles over wages at national team level, but there's never been anything like this!

Off-record

Egan is not the only one who has aired such views. The others, however, remain "off the record."

Most soccer writers have known about three incidents that took place on the world tour late last year, but have been loathe to write about them:

- a player urinated in a restaurant;
- another sprayed the interior of a hotel with a fire extinguisher;
- two players had a major punch-up in a hotel.

Sources in Sydney revealed these incidents in January, and although they have been common knowledge among players, officials and journalists, they were never published.

Egan says playing for Australia meant a lot to him, and although the breaking of ranks will be abhorred, a man who is willing to risk so much for the sake of what he believes, deserves to be listened to.

Top scorer shuns 'Roos and blasts 'amateur' set-up!

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Charlie Egan's Socceroo career is over.

The leading 1985 National League scorer this week announced he is not interested in playing for Australia in the international series later this month, and in June.

He then launched a scathing attack on what he labelled the "amateurish" way in which the national team is run.

"I won't even ring Frank Arok and tell him about my decision. He can read about it in print. That's how much respect the national team deserves," said Egan.

"But I don't want people to get me wrong. Being picked for Australia was one of the highlights of my career but it breaks my heart to see the way things are run."

Just see what happens when these international games come up soon. There's nothing surer than that at least six or seven new faces will appear in the team and that's a joke. What are we playing at? The World Cup qualifying games are just around the corner and we still haven't settled on a squad. What chance have we got of qualifying for the finals?

Egan slammed what he called a "lack of loyalty" shown by the ASF to national team players in recent years.

Tommy Cumming got injured playing for Australia a few years back and was out of the game for a long time. Was he looked after by people at the top?

"Look what happened to Peter Laumerts and Harry Hird last year during training for the World Series games. Peter did his collar bone and no-one even took him to hospital. He had to get a taxi. Harry ended up needing knee reconstruction surgery after getting injured in a training game. Was he looked after?

"It's about time that I returned the loyalty shown to me by my club, South Melbourne Hellas, by my wife and by my employer who allowed me time off to train and play for Australia."

Egan went on the Socceroos' world tour late last year. He played the least amount of games of the forwards in Arok's squad yet was leading scorer.

"That was a sightseeing tour more than anything else. It cost a lot of money to send us to see the Great Wall of China and all these temples but we're supposed to be soccer players playing for our country and nothing was achieved in that regard during the tour."

"I thought that the tour would be used to settle on a squad for this year and to get some sort of system organised but that wasn't the case. I played on the right wing, on the left and through the middle and all I

learnt about what was expected of me is that I was supposed to chase around like a mad dog."

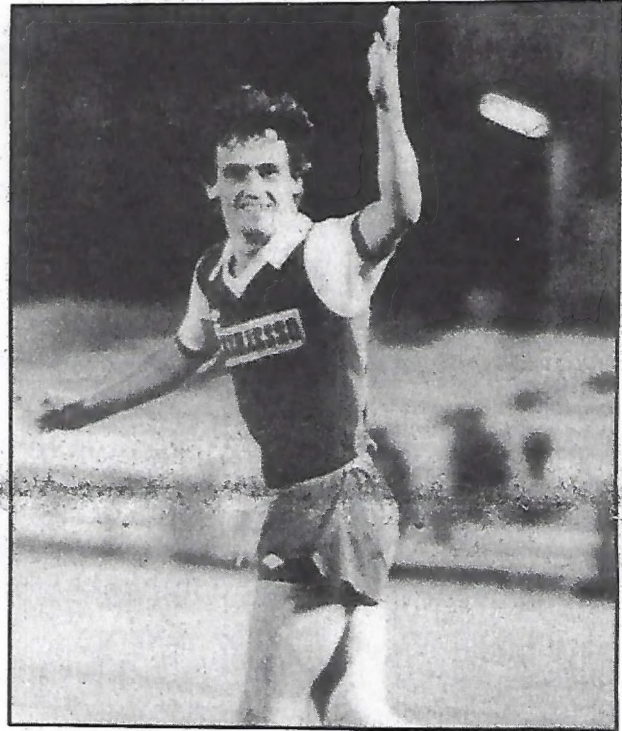
The low point of that tour came when the Socceroos had to face the embarrassment of playing Tottenham Hotspur on a training ground.

"We used 20 players in that game. We should have used them at the one time for I'm sure no-one would have bothered. All that was missing was a guy with a pair of wellies running the line."

"All the lads were really sick. We went there like a pack of beggars, pleading with Spurs to give us a game and look what happened. We got a wee meal after the match and a wee souvenir bag and the Spurs lads said that they'd see us soon in Australia. Well, they won't be seeing me in Australia, I can tell you."

"If I were arranging their trip here I'd send them to Nunawading or Frankston to play. That's all they deserve."

Egan started off in the Australia B team for last year's World Series



Charlie Egan of SM Hellas. He's waved goodbye to the national team.

games but was elevated to the A team. He found a big difference in the level of unity in both squads.

"Thanks to guys like Tony Henderson and Gary Cole, the B team players got together with Eddie Thomson and decided to pool the bonus money. That wasn't the case with the A team where a lot of players were jealous of each other and were only interested in protecting their spots."

"Sure, I could just sit back and collect my money like others do, but it's about time that someone spoke out about what goes on in the national team. I'm not the only player who thinks this way, either."

Egan also lashed out at what he claimed was a decided bias toward Sydney-based players and coaches.

Returning to the world tour, Egan asked:

"Why didn't we concentrate on playing club sides in Scotland and Spain to get a feel of the atmosphere there because we're almost certain to face one of these countries if we make it through the early qualifying games?"

Egan has made 20 Socceroo appearances. His first was against Thailand in the 1982 Merlion Cup.

JINXED!



• Katholos

"I'm jinxed. I've got to be."

That's how former Socceroo, Sydney Olympic star and "Soccer Action" columnist Peter Katholos reacted after seriously injuring his medial ligament in Olympic's game against Sydney City Hakoah.

Katholos had filed his weekly column with us and had written about knee injuries two days before the Hakoah game (see cutting).

In the 30th minute of that match, he went up for a high ball and when he landed, a player fell across his knee damaging Katholos's medial ligament.

"Thank goodness the ligament didn't completely come away from the bone and it's been attached again," said Katholos, who will be out of action for 12 weeks.

"Soccer Action" and many fans right around Australia wish Peter a full recovery.

When only the best will do

Modern soccer is fast and demanding — and damaging, especially to players' knees. Arthur Svinos at Olympic required a full knee reconstruction and was out of the game for a year and a half. Danny Moulis wasn't so fortunate. He too required knee reconstruction surgery but he's ended up out of the game. Tony Dakos was operated on about a month ago for a cartilage problem and Tony says that his knee is going to be stronger than ever. He's already back in training. By the way, the man who operated on Svinos and Dakos is Dr Cross, one of the best known orthopaedic surgeons in Sydney. Another top surgeon in this field is Dr Sekal.

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Dom Kapetanovic — in the Melbourne Croatia hot-seat.

Learn to accept defeat — that's Dom's message

By HARVEY SILVER

Domagoj Kapetanovic was always thinking of coming back to Australia since his return to his native Croatia at the end of the 1982 soccer season.

He had been in this country for three years, two as coach of Sydney Croatia, winning the NSW State League Championship in 1981, the last with Marconi in the National League.

Now Kapetanovic is back in Australia and in one of Australian soccer's proverbial hot-seats as coach of Melbourne Croatia. Croatia's fans and management are satisfied with nothing less than success, so it's little wonder that Kapetanovic already is feeling the pressure.

"No-one has said we have to win the championship or we have to finish in the top five, but certainly there is a necessity to do as well as possible," he said.

On his arrival at Croatia Kapetanovic said he was delighted with the way the club was organised and the number of promising youngsters ready to be developed into top players.

"Five of our squad of 18 are youngsters with great potential who need to make one more step before they can say they are established," Kapetanovic said.

"Gojevic, Runje, Markovac, Juricic, and Trogrlic all have a lot of talent but many players die with talent without ever showing it."

Spotting talent is one job Kapetanovic is well qualified for. His experience is vast with over 300 Croatian first division games and numerous State representations.

A former assistant coach of the Yugoslav national team, his coaching started with junior teams, progressed to first division sides Velez, Zagreb, Dinamo and Osijek, with Osijek, after an unbeaten run of 18 games, joining the Croatian first division for the first division in 23 years.

Off in Greece was another stop as were Ahali Benjazi of Libya and Metros Toronto in Canada, both of whom won their respective national championships under Kapetanovic.

This experience will be Kapetanovic's major weapon in combatting what he sees as the major problem in Australian soccer. "There are a lack of coaches here with their own ideas. They have copied the British style and try and teach this but these are not British players," he said.

"This has improved over my time away as players are realising that it is easier to knock the ball and let it, not the player, do the work, but the system of 4-4-2 which most coaches play makes it difficult to play anything but the British style."

At Melbourne Croatia, Kapetanovic sees the basis of a team that can win the Southern Division championship.

"The quality is there but we do not yet have a champion team system. You also always need a little luck to succeed but that luck will come when the team is playing as I want it to play."

"Our biggest problem is that players do not think ahead enough during a game. They should be thinking three or four moves ahead, not what to do when they get the ball."

Kapetanovic obviously will bring ideas gained in his own country to Melbourne Croatia but for Australia to become a force in world soccer he believes we must develop our own style of play and not rely on a certain European or South American brand.

"Australia is regarded world-wide as a sporting nation in tennis and swimming — soccer should be no different. Administration should be looking for scouts to spot local talent instead of importing, and selection should favour these locals."

At Croatia, Kapetanovic sees three players who, potentially, could represent not only Australia but almost any team in the world.

But the three, who he would not name, had to show more than potential, they had to perform at their highest level week after week.

"As well as this, every player has to be a good person, correct as both an individual and a sportsman," he said.

Kapetanovic no doubt is Melbourne Croatia through and through and feels obliged to make sure 1985 is a success.

"Being a sportsman, one must accept defeat as well as victory and one must take the blame as well as the credit."

"Those who do not know how to lose don't deserve to win."

Is there a message here for impatient committeemen and fans?

'UNCLE JOE' LEAVES A LEGACY OF LOVE



By ANDREW DETTRE

He was everybody's 'Uncle,' and he is no more. Last week, at 67, Joe Vlasits died in Sydney, losing a grim, drawn-out fight with a severe kidney disease. Australian soccer has lost one of its most significant and enduring characters.

Joe Vlasits was what the Germans would call 'Meistermacher,' a coach under whose care teams, even ordinary ones, became champions, escaped 'certain' relegation or survived crises. Joe had that touch.

I don't know what it was that made players and teams pull for him — but they did. I saw it time and time again, at club and national level, marvelling at his ability to motivate players some of whom, under other coaches, proved to be trouble-makers.

He was a useful first division player in his native Hungary, playing for several seasons with the small club, Nemzeti NSC, then retired at an early age to take up coaching.

He was, during the war, one of the very first itinerant coaches employed by the Hungarian FA, travelling the width and breadth of the country, holding seminars and camps for talented youngsters. It was during those years that his rapport with junior players developed.

I first met Joe in Sydney in 1951 or 1952 when he was playing for the Hungarian migrant club, Ferencvaros, later Europa, pre-runners of today's St George Budapest.

Joe was in his early 30s then but still a tremendously skilful player. His halfback line partners were Feri Kern, ex-Gamma and Rudi Dornay, ex-Nagymarad, both brilliant players; the Saints could do with a trio like that even today...

Then came years of coaching. His first outstanding success was the creation of the 'Canterbury Kids' with the production of a team of young, excitingly talented locals blended with a few imports.

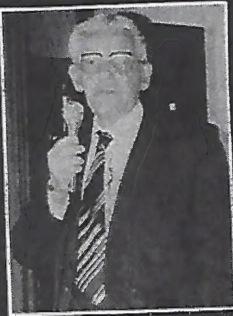
John Watkins, John and Geoff Warren, Barry Salisbury, 'Whoozy' Neal and many others, like Young, Moore, the two Browns, Cousins, Corry and Curry hallmarked the great Canterbury team — undoubtedly the greatest post-war team based on a district and non-ethnic club.

But Joe Vlasits was skilful enough to repeat his success with other clubs, too: he won NSW titles with Prague, then with Budapest, and achieved better results than most with some other clubs as well.

In 1967 he was appointed national coach — and immediately scored a brilliant win in the Saigon Tournament. It was there that the young Attila Abonyi, top scorer of the international series, became an Australian celebrity.



Joe Vlasits (top right), with the Socceroos before their 1969 World Cup battles, from left, top: Bordacs (team manager), Marnoch, Watkiss, Ackerley, Keith, Patrick (official), Vlasits. Middle row: Corrigan (team doctor), Corry, Manuel, Zeman, Wilkins, Baartz, Fraser, le Vefre (ASF secretary). Front: Perin, Vojtek, Abonyi, Warren, Rutherford, Walsh, Alagich, McCall.



Joe Vlasits, speaking at an annual NSW press awards function

edly the greatest post-war team based on a district and non-ethnic club.

But Joe Vlasits was skilful enough to repeat his success with other clubs, too: he won NSW titles with Prague, then with Budapest, and achieved better results than most with some other clubs as well.

In 1967 he was appointed national coach — and immediately scored a brilliant win in the Saigon Tournament. It was there that the young Attila Abonyi, top scorer of the international series, became an Australian celebrity.

Perryman (pictured right) is still only one of more than a dozen Tottenham players who have claimed representative honours, mainly at senior level, with various countries.

As an England Under-23 player, Perryman made 27 appearances, yet he did not make the breakthrough to senior level until June, 1982... and then it was in the role of substitute when he went on against Iceland in Reykjavik.

Many people rate Perryman the unluckiest of players not to have won a cluster of caps. At the start of this season, Perryman kicked off with a club record tally of 500 appearances in League games alone, and he had also played in 174

When the team returned to Sydney from Saigon a crowd of at least 1000 fans — yes, ordinary soccer lovers — turned the old International Airport lounge into a crazy, excited, colorful mini-stadium.

"Well done, Uncle Joe" banners were held high by many fans as Vlasits, flanked by his stars, came into the hall.

Two years later, he built a powerful and well balanced national team to make Australia's second World Cup bid: players like Warren, Baartz, Abonyi, Ackerley, Corry, Perin, Vojtek, Schaefer, Watkiss and Marnoch jelled into a solid unit under Joe's loving care.

They won the tough World Cup elimination tourney in Seoul, South Korea, under the most trying and outright hostile conditions, then eliminated Rhodesia and finally went under, by the odd goal, to Israel, on a home and away basis. The Mexico World Cup finals were missed by a single goal — an own goal at that — and Joe Vlasits never quite forgave himself for the 'failure.'

Even recently, many years later, he would remember every single detail of that campaign, speculating what could have been done differently, better, more efficiently, to make those finals.

As is the custom in football, Vlasits was replaced after the 1969 bid and, for quite some time, he felt bitter about it. However, he could take some credit when in 1973 Australia qualified for the World Cup finals under the new coach, Rale Rasic: the foundations for that team were laid down by 'Uncle Joe' in 1969.

In the 1970s he was active as NSW State coach and as assistant to Rudi Gutendorf with the young Socceroos in 1979 for World Youth Cup elimination matches in Paraguay. Although in recent years his illness has forced his retirement from active coaching, he never lost his interest in the game.

He was there on all five match days at the World Youth Cup elimination series earlier this year in Sydney and, whenever he could manage it, he would turn up at one of the soccer stadiums: slightly bent, pale, but ever alert in case he could spot another talent.

I have no idea how many fine players were discovered by Joe Vlasits; their number must be impressive by any standard. And for every youngster who actually reached the top under him, he must have filled dozens of others with a life-long love for the game.

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Tottenham's record breaking captain heads our way



One of the finest professionals in English football, Spurs captain Steve Perryman, is heading for our shores later this month with his club to compete in the big international series involving Indonesian and the Socceroos.

Perryman (pictured right) is still only one of more than a dozen Tottenham players who have claimed representative honours, mainly at senior level, with various countries.

As an England Under-23 player, Perryman made 27 appearances, yet he did not make the breakthrough to senior level until June, 1982...

At the start of this season, Perryman kicked off with a club record tally of 500 appearances in League games alone, and he had also played in 174

July, 1967, made his League debut at home against Sunderland in September, 1969, and 10 years later was awarded a testimonial.

The final accolade came in season 1981-82, when he was voted Footballer of the Year by the sportswriters, and he has set an outstanding

example of skill allied to strength, plus sportsmanship, throughout his career. Perryman is one of those players who can truly be termed a model professional, and there is just as much quality in his play today as when he first began to make people sit up and take notice.



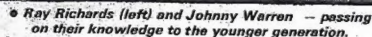
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- 9 Egan (SMH)
 - 6 Stevenson (H'b)
 - 4 Lewis (GG), Latif (SGC)
 - 4 Reis (BC), Zinni (BUJ)
 - 3 Villani (ACJ), Konstantopoulos (WAH), House (M.Cr), Spink, Cole (Mak)

Youth games

VICTORIAN YOUTH LEAGUE: Fawkner 0 Nunawading City 0, Sunshine G.X. 1 B.U. Juventus 1, Heidelberg Utd 1 St Melbourne Hellas 3, Melbourne Croatia 2, Preston-Makedonia 2, Croydon City 0 Green Gully 3, Footscray JUST 4 Frankston Pines 0.

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Heidelberg	6	0	2	33	11	12
Makedonia	5	2	1	25	11	12
B.U. Juventus	4	3	1	27	14	11
Footscray JUST	4	3	1	18	11	10
Melb Croatia	4	2	1	15	8	10
St Melbourne Hellas	4	2	1	17	13	10
Green Gully	4	1	3	20	8	9
Sun. George Cross	3	2	3	18	11	8
Fawkner	2	2	4	10	23	6
Nunawading	1	2	5	16	4	4
Croydon City	1	0	7	3	32	2
Frankston Pines	1	0	7	7	38	2
Melbourne Utd	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Spink	0	0	0	0	0	0

This week's youth games:

SATURDAY: Green Gully v Frankston Pines.

SUNDAY: Nunawading City v Sunshine George Cross, South Melbourne Hellas v Melbourne Croatia, Brunswick Juventus v Heidelberg Alexander, Preston Makedonia v Croydon, Fawkner v Footscray JUST.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

AIS 5 d. Blacktown 1, Inter Monaro 3 d. Olympic 1. Pointscore: Canberra 13, Sydney City 12, St George 10, AIS 9, Newcastle 9, Leichhardt 8, Wollongong 8, Blacktown 7, Croatia 6, Marconi 5, Olympic 5, Inter Monaro 5, Penrith 3.

TOP PLACE AT STAKE FOR BOTH CROATIAS

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Both Croatias will have league leadership at stake on Sunday. Kevin Keegan looms as Sydney Croatia's greatest hurdle, while Melbourne Croatia faces the might of the star-studded SM-Hellas team at Middle Park.

Neither Croatia can afford not to win. For Sydney Croatia, defeat would mean being replaced at the top of the Northern Division ladder by Sydney Hakoah which should beat Rosebud. For Melbourne Croatia victory would be rewarded by league leadership on goal difference, while defeat would leave the club four points behind Hellas.

Keegan scored in his debut for Blacktown last Sunday, and will again be Blacktown's major weapon against the league leaders. The game will be the second of a double-header at Marconi Stadium, starting with the clash between Marconi and Inter Monaro at 1 pm.

Meanwhile, the National Cup final was scheduled for St George Stadium, at 7 pm tonight (Wednesday) but it all depended on the weather. The final had been postponed from last Thursday because of heavy rain in Sydney. Makedonia's tall defender Robbie Dunn was in doubt due to a head injury, while Olympic will miss injured Peter Kath-

olos and striker Marshall Soper who's suspended.

Hellas, which will miss suspended Ken Murphy, is about to start negotiations for a big-name guest player from Greece. Club chairman Chris Christopher is concerned that Hellas actually has lost support, despite its championship victory of last season, and believes a shot of international glamour would lure back the fans.

Both Croatias also are negotiating for top players from overseas.

Ante Ljubic, who arrived almost a month ago but has had only half a game, should finally recover from injury, to resume with Melbourne Croatia on Sunday. An experienced striker, the big occasion should bring out the best in him — but at the other end, Doug Brown will be fired up by his goal against Heidelberg last week, and is hungry for more.

Terry Patalis will join Marconi on loan from Sydney

Weekend NSL matches with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY

GREEN GULLY v West Adelaide Hellas at Green Gully Reserve, 3 pm. **Newcastle-Rosebud v SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH** at Adamstown Oval, 3 pm.

SUNDAY

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS v Melbourne Croatia at Middle Park, 3 pm.
BU Juventus v Heidelberg-Alexander (draw) at Olympic Park No 2, 3 pm.
Preston-Makedonia v Brisbane City (draw) at Connor Reserve, 3 pm.
Brisbane Lions v Sunshine-George Cross (draw) at Richlands, 3 pm.
Adelaide City Juventus v FOOTSCRAY JUST at Olympic Sports Field, 2.30 pm.
MARCONI v Inter Monaro at Marconi Stadium, 1 pm.
Blacktown v SYDNEY CROATIA at Marconi Stadium, 3.30 pm.
ST GEORGE BUDAPEST v Wollongong at St George Stadium, 3 pm.
Canberra Olympians v APIA-Leichhardt (draw) at Bruce Stadium, 3 pm.
Sydney Olympic v Penrith (draw) at Pratten Park, 3 pm.

NATIONAL CUP FINAL

Tonight (Wednesday)

Sydney Olympic v PRESTON MAKEDONIA at St George Stadium, 7 pm.

Olympic for the clash with Inter Monaro, which will be without Billy Willox (suspended). Inter Monaro has won two in a row, partly due to the class of Emil Dragicevic, but Marconi, almost back to full-strength, looks too strong.

Brunswick-Juventus is now within striking distance of league leadership in the south, while Heidelberg is desperate to stay up there, following its narrow loss to Hellas. George Christopoulos may move to centre back to replace Angelo Tasios probably will come into midfield. Juventus has the option of bringing in Fabio Incantupo — which might be a good move, as he scores goals.

Let's hope for an interesting match — not like the dull draw at Chaplin Reserve last Sunday.

George Cross, becoming somewhat of a draw specialist, should add yet another point from its away game against Lions in Brisbane, while Green Gully, playing at home on Satur-

day, should recover from last week's loss to Brisbane City, to beat West Adelaide Hellas.

"Soccer Action" extends its best wishes to Green Gully coach Bobby McLachlan, who suffered a mild heart attack last week, and was admitted to Box Hill hospital. Jim Williams is looking after the team in McLachlan's absence.

Footscray JUST, which still was trying to finalise a loan agreement for Socrates Nicolaides of Hellas as we went to Press, has a good chance of scoring its second successive victory when it takes on Adelaide Juventus. Juventus is desperate for points at home, so it probably will push forward, leaving itself vulnerable to JUST's counter-attacks via Bill Lazopoulos and Ernie Tapai.

Canberra Olympians have climbed into the top five, but can expect no more than a draw with APIA at home, while Wollongong appears to have no hope against St George-Budapest.

NSL SOUTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
STH MELB HELLAS	5	3	0	14	8	13
MELBOURNE CROATIA	4	3	1	11	3	11
H'BERG-ALEXANDER	4	2	2	14	7	10
B'WICK JUVENTUS	3	4	1	10	7	10
BRISBANE LIONS	3	3	2	6	5	9
Brisbane City	3	2	3	11	7	8
Sun-George Cross	2	4	2	6	7	8
Preston Makedonia	3	2	3	11	13	8
Green Gully	2	3	3	9	10	7
West Adel. Hellas	2	2	4	7	10	6
Adel. City Juventus	0	4	4	9	17	4
Footscray J.U.S.T.	1	0	7	7	19	2

NSL NORTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SYDNEY CROATIA	5	1	1	17	9	11
SYD. CITY HAKOAH	5	0	2	17	9	10
MARCONI	3	3	1	16	12	9
BLACKTOWN	4	1	3	12	9	9
CANBERRA OLYMPIANS	3	3	2	14	12	9
APIA-Leichhardt	4	0	3	14	11	8
Sydney Olympic	4	0	4	8	9	8
Penrith	2	2	3	9	8	6
St. George Budapest	2	2	3	6	6	6
Newcastle-Rosebud	1	2	4	7	15	4
Inter-Monaro	2	0	6	11	20	4
Wollongong	2	0	5	12	23	4

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Steve Bryant of Canberra Olympians has climbed to within one point of leader Graham Honeyman (West Adelaide Hellas) in the voting for the Boral Bricks \$1500 Player of the Year award.

Charlie Egan of SM-Hellas, who is in fourth place in the voting, holds the lead in the \$1000 Boral Bricks top scorer's award.

Top vote-getters:
 31. Honeyman (WAH).
 30. Bryant (Can).
 29. Wheatley (Black).
 28. Egan (SMH).
 27. Hunter (BL).
 26. Reis (BC).
 25. Reib (BC).
 24. Deankovic (N.Cr).
 23. Gomez (M.Cr).
 22. Patikas (S.Cr).
 21. Patikas (S.Cr).
 20. Patikas (S.Cr).
 19. Patikas (S.Cr).
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 3. Patikas (S.Cr).
 2. Patikas (S.Cr).
 1. Patikas (S.Cr).

well (ACJ), Biskic (M.Cr), Crino (SMH), Trainades (Mak).
 20. Thamidis (IM), Rozic (S.Cr), Phillips (SO), E. Campbell (BUJ).
 19. Senkalski (NR).
 18. Jennings (SO).

Top scorers:

9. Egan (SMH).
 6. Stevenson (H'b).
 5. Lewis (GG), Dragicevic (IM), Colquhoun (APIA), Arnold, Patikas (S.Cr), Jankovics, R. Brown (Mar), Latif (SGC).
 4. Reis (BC), Zinni (BUJ), Ward (M.Cr), Fafiza (SCH), Smith (AM).
 3. Giampaolo (IM), Gaban (APIA), Easton (P), Villani (ACJ), Konstantopoulos (WAH), House (M.Cr), Kosmina, Gomez (SCH), Spink, Cole (Mak).

SOUTHERN DIVISION

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 1 (Costanzo 3rd) BRISBANE LIONS 1 (Hunter 6th) at Olympic Sports Field. Crowd: 200. Ratings by Allan Crisp.

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS: McNally 8, Donnelly 8, Flounders 8, Nykhus 8, Cecere 7, Melia 7, Santrae 5, Villi 7 (Mullen 47th).
BRISBANE LIONS: Evans 8, Jackson 8, Hunter 9, Redmond 8, Niven 9, Anderson 8, R. Stewart 7, J. Stewart 7, Ogden 7, Cairney 6 (McGregor 73rd), Wright 8, Coach: Gordon Armstrong.

Best six for Boral Bricks award: 6. Hunter (BL), 5. Niven (BL), 4. McNally (AC), 3. Flounders (AC), 2. Anderson (BL), 1. Nykhus (AC).

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Ward 47th, Biskic 51st) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 0 at Olympic Park No 1. Crowd: about 3,000. Ratings by Craig MacKenzie.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje 5 — Deankovic 3, Parton 5, Antolovic 4, Hannah 5 — Biskic 5, Cumming 3, Campbell 3, Gojevic 5 — Markovic 3 (House 77th), Ward 4, Coach: Dom Kapetanovic.
PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Trainades 5 — McMillan 4, Dunn 4 (inj), Heys 4 (2nd 4), Dobson 5, Opatin 3 — Iloski 3, Flavell 4, Lane 3 — Cole 3, Smith 3 (inj), Gagic 66th, Spink 3, Coach: Bill Murray.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Parton (MC), 5. Hannah (MC), 4. Trainades (PM), 3. Gojevic (MC), 2. Dobson (PM), 1. Biskic (MC).

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 0 BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 0 at Chaplin Reserve. Attendance 3000 (estimated). Ratings by Peter Desira.

GEORGE CROSS: Kastner 7, Campbell 7, Taylor 7, Richardson 6, Mitten 6, MacLaren 6, Bain 6, Tool 6 (Lennon 66th), Glider 6, Latif 6, Coach: John Gardiner.
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS: Banovic 7, Lewis 6, Brown 6, Dowie 7, Campbell 8, Culigine, Mirandis 6, Petersen 5, Wade 6, Zinni 7, Sweeney 6, Coach: John Margaritis.

Best six for Boral Bricks player of the year award: 6. Campbell (BU), 5. Taylor (SGC), 4. Zinni (BU), 3. Kastner (SGC), 2. Dowie (BU), 1. Campbell (SGC).

FOOTSCRAY JUST 2 (Tapai pen. 23rd, Lazopoulos

MONARO 3 (Dragicevic 8th and 36th, Giampaolo 86th) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Kalantzis 84th) at Seiffert Oval, Monaro. Crowd: 822. Ratings by Peter Windsor.

MONARO: Hoszowski 7, Budini 8, Dachs 7 (Gagetti 21st), Santolin 7, Walsh 8, Willox (red card, 22nd), Ambrosino 7, Carbone 9, Dragicevic (Brennan 36th), 6, Giampaolo 6, Thamidis 8, Coach: Ray Thompson.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC: London 7, Hantiois 8 (Polias 53rd), Lambropoulos 7, Rogers 7, Jennings 6, Phillips 8, Raskopoulos 8, Svinos 7, Kalantzis 7, Johnston 7, Johnston 7, Soper (red card, 22nd), Coach: Manfred Schaefer.

Best six for Boral Bricks award: 6. Carbone (M), 5. Thamidis (M), 4. Budini (M), 3. Walsh (M), 2. Phillips (SO), 1. Raskopoulos (SO).

82nd WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 1 (Konstantopoulos 8th) at Schintler Reserve. Crowd: about 500. Ratings by Ken Kontra.

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Boland 7 — Kyriakoulas 7, Karic 8, MacLeod 7, O'Donnell 7 — Taseski 7, Belic 6, Tapai 9 — Lazopoulos 7, Carroll 5, Lujic 6, Coach: Rocco Ile.
WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: Crook 7, Hiern 7, Brown 8, Honeyman 7, Scott 6 — McGregor 6, Genikas 6, Atsalas 6 (Matiasak 66th), Konstantopoulos 7, Price 6 (Stefanopoulos half time) 6, Panagis 6, Coach: Neil McGachey.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Tapai (FU), 5. Karic (FU), 4. Brown (WA), 3. MacLeod (FU), 2. Konstantopoulos (WA), 1. Honeyman (WA).

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 0 SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Brown 50th) at Olympic Village. Crowd about 15,000. Ratings by Laurie Schwab.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 6 — McKie 8, Yankos 8, Angele 6 (sent off, half time), Marley 8 — Salemidis 8, Christopoulos 6, Valentine 6 (Tasios 75th) — Stevenson 6, Winn 5 (Metaxas 62nd), Petterson 7, Coach: Brian Garvey.
HELLAS: Laumets 8 — Russell 8, Yeendorn 7, Blair 7, Postecoglou 8 — McDowell 7, Halford 6, Crino 3, Murphy 6 (sent off, half time) — Brown 6, Egan 7.

Best six for Boral Bricks player of the year award: 6. Crino (SMH), 5. Yankos (H'b), 4. Russell (SMH), 3. Salemidis (H'b), 2. Postecoglou (SMH), 1. Marley (H'b).

BRISBANE CITY 3 (Reis 2, Hamilton) GREEN GULLY 0 at Spencer Park. Crowd: 1372. Ratings by Ricky Rosso.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 7, Mengotti 6, Wilkinson 7, Milovanovic 8, Bromfield 8, Junna 7, Hamilton 8, Fabrice 7, Glockner 6, Reis 8 (Scriggins 73rd), Lettieri 8 (Carey 68th), Coach: Jim Hermiston.
GREEN GULLY: Denys 8, Young 7, McLelland 8, Murray 5 (Cannell 7 half time), Williams 8, Hogben 8 (Krajacic 73rd), Smallman 7, Lloyd 6, Campbell 7, Lewis 7, Lucchesi 7, Coach: Jim Williams (caretaker).

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Alan Reis (BC), 5. Roberto Lettieri (BC), 4. Mike Milovanovic (BC), 3. Lou Denys (GG), 2. Hamilton (BC), 1. McLelland (GG).

NORTHERN DIVISION

BLACKTOWN CITY 2 (Keegan 32, McKie 78th) CANBERRA CITY 3 (Pointer 0.22nd, Byrne 37th, Lamond 61st) at Gabbie Stadium. Crowd: 3,500. Ratings by Alex Vesic.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Hoare 7 — Skellern 6 (Daley 65th), Wheatley 7, Pointer 6, Bourke 7 — Selavage 6, Thornwaite 5 (Knight 66th), Bradley 6 — Keegan 8, McKie 6, O'Connor 5, Coach: Casey De Bruin.
CANBERRA CITY: Franken 7 — Omtong 7, Perkins 7, Byrne 8, Dunn 7 — Mihailidis 7, Bryant 8, Serman 6 — Phillips 7 (Gibson 68th), English 6, Lamond 7, Coach: Roy Thompson.

Best six for Boral Bricks award: 6. Keegan (B), 5. Byrne (B), 4. Bryant (C), 3. Wheatley (B), 2. Phillips (C), 1. Bourke (B).

MATCH BALL BY
CAMPO

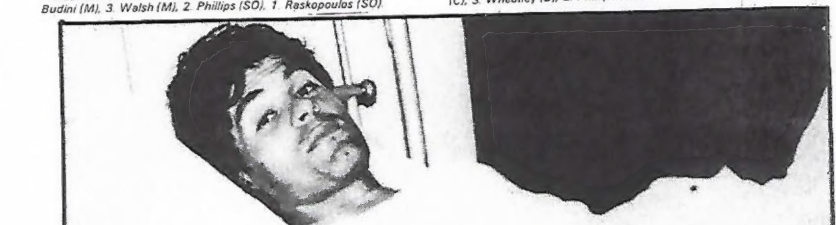
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Lettieri, Reis humble Greens



Ricky Rosso

Man of the Match:
ALAN REIS
(Bris. City).

Bris. City 3
Green Gully 0

Scorers: Reis 28th, 72nd, Hamilton 85th.
Venue: Spencer Park.
Cautions: Lucchesi (GG), Murray (GG), Hamilton (BC).
Referee: Gordon Nicholson 8.

The Spencer Park terraces were buzzing for the first time



Roberto Lettieri at Spencer Park. Picture by CARLOS PICASSO

in nearly three years when Brisbane City's Brazilian signing Roberto Lettieri made his home NSL debut last weekend. And the import's clever touches and astute vision guided City to absolute dominance over a Green Gully side, obviously rocked by the mid-week heart attack to coach Bobby McLachlan.

Lettieri was given an attacking libero role by City coach Jim Hermiston and relished the free space he found in all quarters of the park.

Off the ball he did very little work. But when in possession Lettieri looked dangerous and repeatedly sent City players on attacking raids.

Although not yet match fit, the 30-year-old former Porto Alegre player is set to become a real asset to City and will complement the side of eager runners Jim Hermiston has put together.

But the player certain to

benefit the most from Lettieri is City's other major new signing this year, Alan Reis. Reis, who in the early games was starved of good service, relished the clever through play provided by the Brazilian.

Reis' first goal was from a move initiated by Lettieri and finished off with a pinpoint pass from Stephen Glockner. Reis made no mistake with a drive to the left past Denys, who until then had repeatedly denied the City forwards with several fine saves.

Reis, who had several chances earlier and most of them initiated by Lettieri's brilliance, ran onto a through ball from Frank Mengotti in the 72nd minute, and despite offside pleas from Green Gully defenders, he turned the ball around Denys for a goal.

The second goal sank a struggling Green Gully, which had come to Brisbane without Ken Smart and Willie Vassallo

Cruzeiro for three years

Brazilian maestro Roberto Lettieri, 28, has only a one-year contract with Brisbane City, but hopes to settle permanently in Australia.

Lettieri, born on August 7, 1956 in Porto Alegre, started with Inter-national of that city as a junior and played there until he turned 20.

He then spent three years with mighty Cruzeiro, one year with Sao Paulo and one year with Manaos, before spending four months in Colombia and a year in Peru.

Lettieri, a midfielder or forward, is married and has two children.

and lost Jim Murray at half-time with an ankle injury.

The setbacks were too much and despite fighting efforts from Denys, Steve McLelland, Jimmy Williams, David Smallman and Claude Lucchesi, Gully found it hard to compete against a Brisbane city side playing with a vigor not seen since the club led the league in early 1983.

The final 15 minutes was all Brisbane City and with a bit more luck the Queensland team could have finished with a cricket score.

But the win proved to be City's third on the trot — the first time they have won three in a row for two years, and maintained Hermiston's undefeated run since he took over from Tony Lowndes.

"They are all starting to believe in themselves. We are playing with discipline now and the results are showing that," Hermiston said.

Sunicrust

NSL UNDER 21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD
\$500 to the winner

Leaders:

- 27. Hunter (BL)
- 21. Maxwell (ACJ), Trainor (Mak).
- 17. Bundalo (W)
- 16. Dickson (W)
- 15. Koczka (St.G), Farina (SCH)
- 14. Zinni (BUJ)
- 12. Colagiuri (APIA)
- 11. Jackson (BL), Cristaldo (M.Cr), Franken (Can), Slater (St.G), Postecoglou (SMH).

Medibank Private

NATIONAL LEAGUE BEST GOALKEEPER AWARD
\$250 TO THE WINNER

Leaders:

- 21. Triunfados (Mak)
- 17. Kastner (SGC)
- 16. Howe (Black)
- 14. Wishart (BC)
- 13. Denys (GG)
- 12. Hocking (IM)
- 11. Franken (Can), Evans (BL), Godling (NR), Gibson (P), Greedy (St.G).

Margaritis and Gardiner defend boredom



Peter Desira

Man of the match:
Eddie Campbell
(Juventus)

George Cross 0
BU-Juventus 0

Venue: Chaplin Reserve
Referee: Evan Venios 9
Cautions: MacLaren, Bain (SGC), Lewis (B.J).

JEERS, boos and sarcastic whistling carried these two teams off the park at the end of a forgettable 90 minutes of a soccer match that never got off the ground.

Both sets of supporters criticised the tactics employed and there was a section of spectators who passed loud comments demanding their money back. They threatened never to return to soccer after watching two teams, unwilling to take risks, get clogged up in an overcrowded midfield and seeing most of the forward moves come aground with uninspired finishing.

And who can blame them for staying away when, in what amounts to an amazing finish, Juventus pulled most of its players into defence and midfield while George Cross was content to play the ball across its defensive area for the closing four minutes.

George Cross centreback Steve Richardson actually sat down on top of the ball for almost 30 seconds with Juventus refusing to put any pressure on him.

The only two people satisfied with the result were the two coaches, John Margaritis and John Gardiner, although both conceded it was a bad game to watch — in what must rank as the understatement of the season.

Juve supreme Margaritis said, "It was a bad game from both teams but I have no complaints."

"If we take a point at away

matches, we will win the championship.

"I don't blame John Gardiner for playing the way he did either. He is a man who knows he hasn't got a top team and has a goal to achieve — avoiding relegation — so good luck to him.

"But there was no way we were going to fall into his trap of running around for nothing in the last third of the park. He was offering us a poison cake but we were not stupid enough to bite at it."

John Gardiner's view was, "It takes two teams to play and if they wanted it badly enough they could have attacked us more."

"We had to cover our injuries and suspensions with a patched-up team, yet we were the ones committed forward even before the ball was kicked because we played with only three at the back.

"My job is to keep it tight but I played three at the back. If Juventus had been more adventurous I would've had to cover it."

"But instead we had the chances and had few or no saves to make at our end."

"It was only in the last three or four minutes of each half that I instructed my players not to give the ball away — it would have been a bad time to give a goal away."

"John Margaritis has got an abundance of talent both at the back and in the forward line and his only problem is finding out his strongest line-up. He is going to come to a stage that if they want to win the league they have to be more positive."

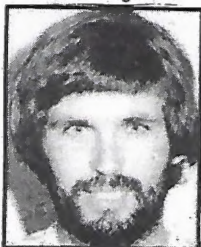
George Cross did play with only three at the back using Chris Taylor to sweep behind Richardson and John Campbell, the markers of Juve's two strikers, Joe Sweeney and Andrew Zinni.

Both sides had four in midfield but neither quarter was able to assert any superiority in the middle of the park because of the congestion and lack of time and space to do anything creative with the ball.

Most of the openings in the first half finished with shots either wide or over the bar and only two dangerous chances came when Mike Petersen met a cross from the right with a good volley, which forced Lou Kastner into a good save in the 28th minute, and then two minutes before half time when an Ossie Latif freekick took a deflection off the wall forcing Yakka Banovic to change direction and dive to stop the ball going inside the right hand



John Margaritis



John Gardiner

The second half was a similar story with the 45 minutes providing only two more openings.

In the 67th minute Richard Miranda's centre to the far post was controlled and turned back into the box by Joe Sweeney and Mike Petersen got on the end of it to send a header narrowly wide.

Two minutes later the sweetest move of the match — substitute Mark Lennon went down the right side and his cross was met with a strong header from Carl Gilder which forced Banovic into a great save.

The ball fell inside the six yard box but Peter Lewis kicked off the line to clear the danger.

Margaritis admitted the 90 minutes did not provide value for money but he said, "I am third on the table and we have a program to follow. We can only play according to the opposition."

The two coaches may have been able to justify their tactics but from a personal point of view, I just wish I could have gone to a more entertaining match to watch.

Am judging from the spectators' reaction, I wasn't



Neville Flounders of Adelaide Juventus slides in front of Brisbane Lions striker Joe Cairney. At right is Fortu Costanzo, who scored in the 1-1 draw, Picture by FRANK HOBBS

Lions for finals, Juve for wooden spoon?

AC-Juventus 1
Brisb. Lions 1

Scorers: Costanzo 3rd, Hunter 69th.
Venue: Olympic Sports Field.
Crowd: 1500.
Referee: Donald Campbell 9.

Brisbane Lions have the team and the style to figure in the National Soccer League finals this season.

Gordon Arrowsmith's boys proved this convincingly when they were extremely unlucky not to leave Adelaide with maximum points.

Lions had to come from behind after Fortu Costanzo had given Juventus a third-minute by following up a Peter Rankin rebound off goalkeeper Wayne Evans.

Thereafter Lions attacked in droves to gain control and but for inaccurate shooting and the fine goalkeeping of Willie McNally, would have won by a



Allan Crisp

comfortable margin. Juventus coach Edmund Krefl had a pre-match setback when midfield strongman Brian Northcote withdrew because of a recurrence of a shoulder injury. Things got worse when Charley Villani was unable to continue after 47 minutes due to a bruised rib cage.

Young Joe Mullen came off the bench to replace Villani, but he linked up with a team lacking ideas and purpose.

Krefl called the Juventus performance, "The worst of the season," but credit should go to Lions for stifling the Juventus midfield with lightning

Man of the Match:
ALAN HUNTER
(Brisb. Lions)

tackles and cutting off the supply to the strikers.

None worked harder nor was more effective than big Lions stopper Alan Hunter.

Hunter grabbed the equaliser with a thumping header following one of many long throw-ins from former youth Soccerero Russell Stewart.

Stewart kept the Juventus defence on tenterhooks with the throws, which proved as menacing as corner kicks.

Perhaps it would have been a different story had Villani managed to get around Evans just five minutes after Juventus had opened the score.

That time Villani was sent into the box by two relayed headers from Costanzo and

Rankin, but Evans dived late to wrest the ball from Villani's feet.

That effort seemed to inspire Lions who burst through with some five moves.

Juventus looked sterile in contrast and it now faces the grim prospect of battling Footscray J.U.S.T. for the wooden spoon of the Southern Division.

The tailenders will clash at Olympic Sports Field on Sunday when Juventus can take no solace from the fact that Footscray is still below it on the League ladder.

The sad fact is that the once greatly admired Juventus is the only team in the division yet to win a game after eight rounds.

But perhaps the Brisbane Lions game will prove the turning point for Juventus. After all, many times this season Juventus has played well without winning.

Against Lions it played very badly without losing. It can only improve on that wretched performance.



Laurie Schwab

Man of the match:
OSCAR CRINO
(SM-Hellas)

Heidelberg 0 SM-Hellas 1

Score: Doug Brown 50th.
Venue: Olympic Village.
Crowd: about 15,000.
Sent off: Angelo (H's) and Murphy (SMH) at half time.
Cautions: Patterson (H's), Brown (SMH), Russell (SMH).
Referee: Chris Bambridge S.

In a match, marred by half-time fisticuffs, atrocious passing, kicking the ball into touch and other general scrappiness, it was reassuring to see Oscar Crino and Theo Selemidis showing a 15,000 crowd that the skills of soccer have not been done away with altogether.

Steve Tasios also provided a highlight of real soccer after coming on as a substitute. He beat four opponents on a brilliant solo run down the left before cutting the ball square for a shot by Selemidis, which goalkeeper Peter Laumets turned over the bar in the best save of the game.

But most of the action occurred off the field. As the teams went towards the dressing room at half time, there was an altercation between Heidelberg's masseur and Hellas midfielder Gary McDowell. Ken Murphy joined in, and so too did Joe Angelo of Heidelberg. Referee Chris Bambridge saw only the tail-end of the action, and it was Murphy and Angelo who were told to come out for the second half, leaving the teams with 10 men each. It is the

Fists, blood but Crino, Selemidis stick to soccer



Doug Brown — his winning goal for Hellas was his 58th in the NSL. Pictures by LES SHORROCK

fourth time in the past five games between these sides that players have been sent off.

After the match, a spectator punched Hellas president Jim Diamataris from behind, opening a cut which bed profusely as he staggered outside the social rooms.

The crowd, which we estimated at about 15,000, was the biggest Heidelberg has had in its history. The only comparable crowd I've seen in the NSL was in 1978 for Hellas's match against St. George at Middle Park. Malcolm McDonald and Charlie George were

guest players in that match. Distance runner Yiannios Kourous kicked off the game and because of the festivities, it started 12 minutes late.

Doug Brown, NSL top scorer of 1984 and 1985, scored the winning goal after goalkeeper Jeff Oliver had parried a shot from Charlie Egan. Selemidis, who had dropped back into defence in Angelo's absence, had inadvertently headed Crino's cross down to the feet of Egan for the initial shot.

To Selemidis's credit, he did everything he possibly could to try to pull that goal back. In fact, he was the only man willing to get into the box for the hard stuff, and it was only bad luck that prevented him from scoring twice.

But it was a defender's game. With nerves strung taut, neither team was able to instigate effective passing movements to set up scoring chances, making it difficult for the forwards and a little easier for the defenders who played with great gusto and concentration — especially Bobby Russell and Charlie Yankos.

National coach Frank Arok, who watched the game, said afterwards that both Russell and Heidelberg's right-back Ian McKie were in the running for inclusion in the Soccerco squad, due to the absence of Alan Davidson, as was Scott Patterson.

Arok added however, he hoped that Davidson would recover from his back injury in time to play in the World Cup in September-October.

Arok made a discreet enquiry about Hellas left back Angelo Postecoglou who also ranked among the stars of the game, as did Hellas goalkeeper Peter Laumets, Gary McDowell and Steve Marley.

But spectators pay to see skill and class. That's what Crino gave them, particularly in the second half, when he weaved his magic, mesmerising opponents and starting most of the attacks that had any promise about them.

And so Hellas maintains its dominance over its arch-rival. It was in 1982 that Heidelberg achieved its last league victory against Hellas.

The first real scoring chance of the match came in the 30th minute, when Selemidis met McKie's cross with a first-time shot that went across goal.

And in the last 10 minutes of the half, McDowell's volley whistled across goal and another of his shots was held by Oliver.

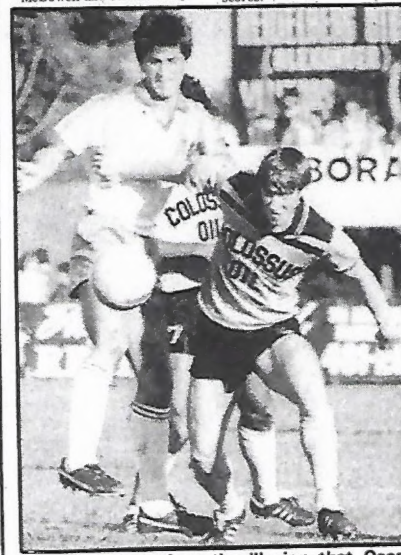
George Christopoulos, playing for Heidelberg against his former club, was in the action often enough, but his passing was astray and he lacked general sharpness, obviously due to lack of match practice while recovering from injury. We'll see the best of him later.

Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey replaced Steve Winn with John Metaxas and Mike Valentine with Steve Tasios.

In between the two switches, Selemidis came forward in an exciting run, leading up to a header by Stuart Stevenson. Postecoglou however, cleared it.

At the other end, Brown, who had scored the goal, mis-kicked in trying to score a second, and missed narrowly with a low shot.

Stevenson, for Heidelberg, hit the side netting on the turn, after Selemidis had back-headed a throw from Metaxas, and then came that great save from Oliver, which prevented Selemidis from levelling the scores.



The camera gives the illusion that Oscar Crino (left) is a giant. Not too far wrong, when

Hajduk, Bochum, now J.U.S.T.

FOOTS JUST 2 W.A. Hellas 1

Score: Tapai Pen 23rd, Lazopoulos 32nd, Konstantopoulos 80th.
Venue: Schindler Reserve.
Crowd: About 500.
Yellow Cards: Footscray: Karic, Lazopoulos. Westad: Brown, McGregor, Atsalas.
Referee: Jim Fern 7

BEFORE the match coach Rocco Ile said that he would give anything for a win. Not just because of the two points, but a boost for the players — confidence is needed to provide some light at the end of the tunnel.

Well Rocco's wish was granted, although J.U.S.T. looked far from convincing, particularly in the second half, against an opponent which had little else but enthusiasm to offer this occasion.

Footscray is still in need of a few better class players, and on this subject, Ile disclosed the name of the player from Yugoslavia the club is negotiating with.

He is Luca Bonacic, a 29-year-old striker from third division club Nereva.

Bonacic played for Hajduk Split early in his career, and was an under 21 International.

He spent some time with Malaga in Spain and Bochum in Germany and is reported to be a prolific goalscorer.

There are some complications with his release however, and Footscray is waiting for a reply from the Yugoslav Soccer Federation to resolve the matter. In the meantime, negotiations are also on the way with two other Yugoslav third division players — a striker and a midfielder.

Despite the win, J.U.S.T. would definitely need all three of them in order to fight off the spectre of relegation hovering above the club.

Neither team produced what could be described as good or exciting soccer, and few



Ken Kontra

players rose above the mediocre!

One notable exception was Ernie Tapai. Drafted into midfield, Tapai tackled with purpose and used the ball intelligently, releasing his forwards with excellent passes on numerous occasions.

In the 18th minute, Tapai won the ball from Steve Atsalas and found Zdravko Lujic unmarked 10 metres in front of goal. Lujic delayed allowing Martyr Crook to close him down and a top scoring chance went begging.

Five minutes later Lujic made amends, when his powerful shot beat Crook but was handled on the goal line by a defender. Tapai easily converted the penalty, to give J.U.S.T. the lead.

In the 32nd minute, Graham Honeyman took the ball forward, only to be dispossessed by Tapai. The former Melbourne youngster split the West Ad defence with a well-weighted diagonal pass in front of Bill Lazopoulos, whose low shot from ten metres on the run gave Martyr Crook no chance.

Two minutes later George Konstantopoulos beat Brian O'Donnell on the right and his low cross was deflected past the upright by Gary Price.

Just on half time, Don Macdonald's short pass created some excitement.

Dennis Boland had to race outside the penalty area to deny Gary Price following through.

Boland kicked the ball into Price, who kept running, but when he finally caught up with

Man of the match:
ERNE TAPAI
(FOOTS JUST)

the rebound, the angle was too acute and his shot only found the side netting, with Boland still stranded on the edge of the box.

During the interval, Neil McGachey substituted Price with Bill Stefanopoulos, pushed Honeyman to the forward line and Ian McGregor, playing in his 200th NSL Match dropped back from midfield to fullback. With Herra us stopper and Tim Brown taking up Honeyman's sweeper position, West Ad certainly looked much safer at the back.

Hellas tried hard to get back into the match, but were denied by some desperate defensive work by the J.U.S.T. back four. Tom Karic in particular, who twice scrambled the ball off the goal line with Boland beat him.

In the 80th minute, West Adelaide finally managed to pull a goal back when George Konstantopoulos hammered a sizzling shot past Boland from 15 metres.

West Ad's coach, Neil McGachey was a disappointed man after the match.

Following five good performances, his team played badly against Brisbane City last week, and he was hoping for a reversal of form and a good result today.

No doubt, Footscray supporters celebrating the team's first victory for the season would disagree, but for the unattached, he summed up the game nicely, when he said, "Who would want to pay money to see rubbish like this?"

At any rate, Footscray achieved its first victory, and this should ease the pressure on the players to some extent, and better performances and results may follow.



The cheer squad's banner

DONCASTER ROVERS JUNIOR COACHING CLINIC

AGES 10-16

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M. Croatia 2 Makedonia 0

Score: Ward 47th, Biskic 51st.
Venue: Olympic Park No.1
Crowd: about 3,000.
Cautions: Biskic, Antolovic (MC)
Referee: Sam Zoumas 4.



Craig Mackenzie

Man of the match:
THERE WASN'T ONE!

that was when Croatia struck its first blow.

George Hannah motored down the right and checked back under a challenge from Heys, who should have won the ball but big Hannah slid down and knocked it into the Makedonia area.

Steve Gojevic touched it on to Gary Ward whose first shot was parried superbly by Traianedes but Zoumas, making a scissors motion with his arms, gave a free kick to Makedonia, presumably for dangerous play by House who was in yards of room and only endangered himself should he have fallen awkwardly.

The first aid room in the dressing room complex looked like a MASH unit at half time.

Dunn was waiting for an ambulance to arrive — Dobson was recovering from concussion — and Gojevic, his strip and shorts blood-spattered, needed treatment for a wound to the back of the head incurred in a challenge with Con Opasinas.

Activity was frenzied. An Olympic Park official, presumably told by referee Sam Zoumas to hurry things along, ducked in and out of the doorways to both dressing rooms, urging the teams to come out for the second half.

Eventually, when Dobson and Gojevic both were ready, out came the teams and lined up before Zoumas and his linesmen appeared!

Two minutes into the second half, which was the 31st minute of play, Biskic curled a free kick into the top corner to make it 2-0 and that was the end of the contest.

Jozo Antolovic decked Steve Smith late in the game and off went the injured Smith, adding further problems to Makedonia's quest to become the first Melbourne club to win the National Cup, but Smith still could play in the final.

What an ugly match this was, one devoid of inter-passing, of close skills and any semblance of flair. It was a fumbling, stumbling, grubbing affair, permeated by physical clashes like the one in the 75th minute between Heys and

Heys slid in and won the tackle against Gojevic collecting the Croatian midfielder at the same time. Gojevic jumped up and confronted Heys who swung two punches at him, neither connecting. Referee Zoumas only told both players off.

Then, late in the game, Croatia substitute Greg House tried an overhead kick inside the Makedonia area. The ball travelled harmlessly to Traianedes but Zoumas, making a scissors motion with his arms, gave a free kick to Makedonia, presumably for dangerous play by House who was in yards of room and only endangered himself should he have fallen awkwardly.

But that decision was well in keeping with the quality of the spectacle and truthfully neither side deserved an audience here.

Sure, Croatians and Makedonians want to see their sides win, but they want to see winning done in style. They want to see Biskic teasing the life out of defenders, they want to see Opasinas streaming forward at every opportunity, they want to see those delicate Gojevic skills surface in full bloom or watch Ilioski's passing.

Sadly, what they saw here was something that best belongs in the nearby MCG.

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SOPER, WILLOX SENT OFF



Peter Windsor

Inter Monaro 3 Syd. Olympic 1

Scorers: Dragicevic 8th & 36th Giampaolo 86th (IM), Kalantzis (SO).
Venue: Seifert Oval
Crowd: 822
Referee: Glyn Davies 6
Cautions: Dachs, Johnston
Sent Off: Willox (IM) 22nd, Soper (SO) 22nd.

In a game of sensational incident, — two dismissals, a player carried off, a penalty and tough, bruising play — country batter Inter Monaro totally outplayed injury-riddled Sydney Olympic.

Sydney Olympic dominated the midfield exchanges in the second half but rarely looked dangerous once near goal.

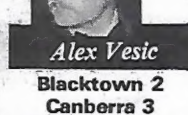
It was a deserved Monaro victory — one marred by the dismissal of Olympic's Soper, front-runner, Marshall Soper, and Monaro's midfield work-horse, Billy Willox in the 22nd minute — and an injury to Monaro's striker, Emil Dragicevic.

Dragicevic — after scoring two great goals — was carried off on a stretcher in the 36th minute.

The game, unfortunately, was totally marred by the dismissal of Soper and Willox, but Soper can have little argument with the decision.

The more pertinent question was why was Willox dismissed? His retaliation had been minimal — and at worst deserved a yellow card.

Not even Kevin Keegan can stop speedy Canberra



Alex Vesic

Blacktown 2 Canberra 3

Venue: Gabbie Stadium
Crowd: 3567
Referee: Ken Small 8
Cautions: Ontong, Skellern
Scorers: Pointer 6, 22nd, Keegan 32nd, Byrne 37th, Lamond 61st, McKie 78th.

Over 3500 spectators braved typically English weather to go to the Gabbie and see Kevin Keegan, football superstar. And no-one went home disappointed.

Keegan, playing with zest and enthusiasm during the first 45 minutes, showed his class. He was always on the lookout for an opening, running towards his player to receive a pass or away from him to create space for a through ball or creeping to the far end of the penalty area hoping for a cross.

He was by far the most imaginative player on the park and capped it all by scoring one of the best goals you could ever see with a classic header at the far post from a fine cross by Johnny McKie.

Keegan would have come away from this game with a few more goals had his teammates realised that he was unattended at the far post on at least four other occasions.

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Man of the match:

KEVIN KEEGAN
(Blacktown)

Sure, Blacktown players fought and fought well but their creativeness was almost nil. They held onto the ball for too long when a quick through ball was needed, then lost possession far too easily.

Canberra came to town with no respect for big names and played well enough to win with its forwards missing some sitters which could have made this festive occasion embarrassing for the locals.

Hilton Phillips, Tommy English and Manis Lamond looked the goods up front and often beat Blacktown defenders for speed. With the score at 2-1 in favour of Canberra and Blacktown throwing everything into attack, the speed of the Canberra front line could have caused all sorts of problems.

John McKie raced away in the 78th minute after a neat through ball by John Bradley to beat Frank to give the home side a semblance of hope. In the last 10 minutes, Blacktown had Canberra pinned in but had little success in the finishing department.

Keegan kept quiet for the best part of the second half, came back into the match and provided his team mates with



Blacktown's guest star Kevin Keegan is beaten to the ball by Canberra's Tommy Sermanni (right).

fine openings but could do little to prevent defeat. Stephen Knight, the 67th minute replacement for Brett Thornthwaite, saw his shot sail just over the bar, then the same player looked set to score a few moments later, but John McKie intercepted the cross which looked destined to find Knight just 10 metres from goal.

The visitors thrived on the breaks which came their way. Manis Lamond will never score an easier goal than the one he got in the 61st minute.

Vidaic, Odzakov, Petersen, Dunn new Socceroos

Mike Petersen of Brunswick-Juventus and Bruno Vidaic and Zarko Odzakov of Sydney Croatia are the surprise inclusions in the national squad announced on Monday night by coach Frank Arok.

The squad will be trimmed for a series against Spurs, Udinese and Vasco Da Gama in May-June.

Petersen, 19, was described recently by Juventus coach John Margaritis as "another Alan Davidson".

He joined Juventus recently from Heidelberg-Alexander, and although mainly a midfielder, can also play as sweeper, full back or striker.

Vidaic plays as stopper for Sydney Croatia, while Odzakov joined Croatia recently from Macedonia.

Charlie Egan of SM-Hellas was included before Arok knew of Egan's intention no longer to play for Australia (see page one).

The full squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: Terry Greedy (St George Budapest), Tony Pezzano (Sydney City Hakoah), Tony Franken (Canberra Olympians), Jeff Oliver (Heidelberg-Alexander).

DEFENDERS: Ian Gray (Marconi), John O'Shea, Mike O'Shea, David Ratcliffe (St. Geo. Budapest), Charlie Yankos (H'berg-Alexander), Graham Jennings (Sydney Olympic), Alex Robertson, Steve O'Connor, Gerardo Gomez (Syd.C.Hakoah), Bruno Vidaic (Sydney Croatia), Robbie Dunn (Preston Macedonia).

MIDFIELDERS: Joe Watson (Syd.C.Hakoah), Oscar Crino, Ken Murphy (SM-Hellas), Peter Raskopoulos (Sydney Olympic), Zarko Odzakov, Jim Patikas, Wally Savor (Sydney Croatia), Mike Petersen (B.U. Juventus), Tom McCulloch (APIA).

STRIKERS: Marshall Soper, Chris Kalantzis (Sydney Olympic), Phil O'Connor (Blacktown), John Kosmina, Frank Farina (Syd.C.Hakoah), Rod Brown (Marconi), Charlie Egan (SM-Hellas).

On standby for the World Cup: Alan Davidson (Nottingham Forest), David Mitchell (Seiko, Hong Kong).

Good draw for youths, bad for under 16's

The Australian youth team fared better than the under 16 side in the draw for their respective world championships later this year.

The World Youth Championships will take place in the USSR from August 24 to September 7.

The World under 16 Championships will take place in China from July 31 to August 11.

The draws:

Group A: Erevan — Hungary,

Colombia, Tunisia and Bulgaria.

Group B: Tiflis — Ireland, Brazil, Saudi Arabia and Spain.

Group C: Minsk — Soviet Union, Australia, Nigeria and Canada.

Group D: Baku — England, Paraguay, China and Mexico.

Group A: Hungary v Colombia, Tunisia v Bulgaria.

Group B: Ireland v Brazil, Saudi Arabia v Spain.

Group C: Soviet Union v Australia, Nigeria v Canada.

Group D: England v Paraguay, China v Mexico.

Group A: Hungary v Tunisia

Group B: Ireland v Saudi Arabia

Group C: Soviet Union v Nigeria

Group D: England v China

August 27

Group A: Colombia v Bulgaria

Group B: Brazil v Spain

Group C: Australia v Canada

Group D: Paraguay v Mexico

August 29

Group A: Hungary v Bulgaria, Colombia v Tunisia.

Group B: Ireland v Spain, Brazil v Saudi Arabia.

Group C: Soviet Union v Canada, Australia v Nigeria.

Group D: England v Mexico, Paraguay v China.

Quarter-finals

September 1

Match One: winner Group A v. second Group B; Match

Two: winner Group B v. second group A; Match Three: winner Group C v. second Group D;

Match Four: winner group D v. second group C.

Semi-finals

September 4

Winner Match One v. winner Match Three, in Moscow;

Match Two v. winner Match Four in Leningrad.

Match for third place: September 7 — loser first semi-final match v. loser second semi-final in Moscow.

Final: September 7 in Moscow.

Under 16 World Championship in China:

Group A

In Peking: China, Bolivia, Guinea, United States.

Group B

In Tianjin: Australia, Argentina, Congo, West Germany.

Group C

In Dalian: Italy, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, runner-up in Concacaf qualifying zone.

Group D

In Shanghai: Brazil, Qatar, Hungary, Concacaf winner.

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MAXWELL FIGHTS BACK FROM THE PAIN OF MISSING MEXICO

By
**CRAIG
MacKENZIE**

Steve Maxwell felt sick watching news clips of the young Soccerroos in action during World Youth Cup finals in Mexico in 1983.

He had made coach Les Scheinflug's 22-man squad but after a training camp in Tasmania before the finals, the squad was cut to 18. Maxwell was dropped.

"I was absolutely shattered. My whole game fell apart. I even ended up being dropped by Adelaide City," said the 21 year old midfielder.

"Les got us together and announced his final squad. He said that it was one of the toughest decisions he'd ever had to make. When I was watching the team on TV, I kept thinking that it could have been me over there playing for Australia. I didn't even feel like training after missing out and after being dropped by my club I virtually played out the remainder of the season on the bench."

More heartbreak followed for at the end of the 1983 season, Maxwell's first with Adelaide City Juventus, he heard on the grapevine that the club was going to sell him. A change of coach and some fatherly advice from Juventus stalwart Bugsy Nyskohus rekindled Maxwell's urge to establish himself in the NSL.

"Edmund Kreft took over and showed a lot of faith in me. Bugsy told me that 1984 had to be my year, so I gave it everything I had during pre-season training and Edmund switched me from up front to midfield which worked wonder for my game."

"I get a lot more room to work in midfield, I'm a lot more involved, and I prefer facing my opponents rather than having them breathing down my neck when the ball's played in to my feet."

Maxwell was born in North Adelaide and only has played for two clubs. He joined West Torrens Birkalla when he was 18, making his first team debut in the last match of the Second Division season five years later.

The following year, 1981, Maxwell established himself at Birkalla and the team won the Second Division championship. Maxwell also played in the South Australian team that won the national youth championship that year by beating Queensland on penalties in the final.

"I'll never forget that game. It was incredible. We drew 1-1

The NSL all-star team before last weekend, based on votes gained in the Boral Bricks \$1500 Player of the year award, was:

TRAINEES (Makedonia)			
WHEATLEY (Blacktown)	HUNTER (Bris. Lions)	HONEYMAN (WA Hellas)	JENNINGS (Syd. Olympic)
PHILLIPS (Syd. Olympic)	GOMEZ (SC-Hakiah)	SENKALSKI (Newc. Resolud)	MAXWELL (AC Juventus)
PATIKAS (Syd. Croatia)	EGAN (SM-Hellas)		



Steve Maxwell of Adelaide City Juventus

at full time and we still were locked together after extra time. I didn't have the nerve to take a penalty then, but I'll take penalties now."

Peter Rankin, Joe Mullen and David Miller were team mates of Maxwell in that youth team.

As so often happens in soccer, the high Maxwell hit in 1981 quickly was followed by a low in 1982.

"I did my cartilage in the first league game in 82. I'd felt something click in my knee at training on the Thursday and on the Friday I got treatment.

During the game on the Saturday, I went up for a ball and when I came down I felt that click again. I got up and ran around but the next ball I went for, it packed in altogether."

Maxwell was operated on the next day. He was out for six weeks and when he came back, Birkalla still hadn't won a league game as it strove to establish itself in First Division.

"My first game back we won 3-1 against Elizabeth and I scored twice, once from the penalty spot and the other from a header. I remember

the header well because I don't get many that way. It's a part of my game I've got to improve."

Towards the end of the 1982 season, Max Huffa of Adelaide City Juventus picked up Maxwell and took the youngster to watch a big derby against West Adelaide Hellas. Maxwell was impressed, his appetite for the NSL whetted, he signed with Juventus.

His first game for Juventus was a 1983 Ampol Cup match against Beograd. Juventus won 4-0, one of the goals coming from a crisp Maxwell volley.

His first NSL match was in a 2-2 draw with Canberra at Hindmarsh Stadium. Juventus was 1-0 down at half time. Maxwell levelled then Canberra hit back to lead 2-1. Time was running out. With seconds left, Juventus won a corner. The ball was crossed and fell to Maxwell, who controlled it on his thigh then knocked it in for a dramatic equaliser.

Four days later, Juventus won a nail-biting semi-final in the Ampol Cup 3-1 after extra time. Maxwell scored twice.

His position in the Juventus first team seemed assured. Until the effects of being so near yet so far from playing in the World Youth Cup finals took their toll.

Maxwell established himself at Juventus last year but near the end of the season, his form slumped.

"I spoke to Willie McNally and Serge Melu about it and they thought that I was fit too early last year, so I've paced myself this year throughout pre-season training and I'm hoping that I can maintain my form."

South Australian referees have come in for a fair bit of criticism recently, especially after South Melbourne Hellas's 2-2 draw with Adelaide City Juventus at a waterlogged Olympic Sports Field a couple of weeks ago.

"The penalty we got against Hellas definitely wasn't a penalty but then again when Neville Flounders was sent off I thought that Charlie Egan should have gone with him."

"I don't want to say too much about referees because I got into a bit of trouble with them last year. I was sent off against Brisbane City for abusing the ref and Adelaide City fined me \$300. I wasn't happy about that but you've just got to cop it. I swear I shouldn't have abused the ref."

"Whenever any team travels interstate the ref can be a problem."

As for South Australian refs, Campbell is the pick of the bunch.

Turning his attention toward Juventus's fortunes this year, Maxwell, like coach Kreft, is adamant that the side's present position on the Southern Division table isn't a true reflection of the quality of soccer it's playing.

"We're a ball playing side. We like to build it up rather than just knock it long like a lot of sides do, and I'm still confident that we can make the five, although we've got to get away from the relegation zone first, of course."

"We're a hell of a lot better than our results show and I'm sure that by the end of the season, everyone will realise that. We're just missing too many easy chances but that will change."

Maxwell, despite his setback at youth level, wants to play for Australia. There's a problem though. He lives in Adelaide.

"I can't remember the last time that a national coach came to watch us play at home. Maybe that's the main problem. Maybe national coaches don't get about enough to have a look at all the players available."

"You definitely don't get seen when you play over here."

When pushed, Maxwell admits that if his development is to continue, he'll probably have to move to either Sydney or Melbourne. But there's no maximum transfer fee clause in his contract, so will that mean that he'll be priced out of the market when he finally moves?

"I hope not. Adelaide City has said that it won't be unreasonable."

Maxwell is one of the leaders in "Soccer Action's" Suntrust under 21 Player of the Year award.

Awards like these give young players like Maxwell national recognition. No doubt coaches in Melbourne and Sydney already are taking notice of the fine Juventus



LET'S FACE IT, KE

The most expressive face in the National League? That's the only verdict you can reach when viewing photographer LES SHORROCK's montage of former Brunswick Juventus player Kevin Lloyd.

Surely Lloyd should be known as a thousand faces. Now with Green:6 doubt his expressions still are treating view of the joys and sorrows of playing. What's Lloyd trying to say in these pictures? Let's guess:
ABOVE LEFT: It wasn't me and I was

STIELIKE STAR

Real Madrid — six times winner of the European Cup — rallied magnificently last week to qualify for the UEFA Cup final against Videoton of Hungary by turning a 0-2 first-leg deficit into a 3-2 victory on aggregate against Inter Milan.

Real Madrid won the second leg in Madrid 3-0 despite the absence of feared striker Emilio Butragueño, known as El Buitro (The Vulture). He has been missing since being hit in the kidney during the first leg against Inter.

But Real's West German international Uli Stielike was back playing a starring role after having recovered from hepatitis.

Santillana started the scoring in the 12th minute, added another in the 42nd minute, and with Inter Milan virtually dead and buried, Michel Gonzalez added a third in the 59th minute. A crowd of 110,000 watched Real's triumph.

Rapid Vienna meanwhile, enjoyed its greatest moment in European soccer when it qualified for the Cup Winners' Cup final by holding Dynamo Moscow to a 1-1 draw in Moscow.

Rapid will meet Everton in the final in Rotterdam on May 18.

Liverpool and Juventus, meanwhile, qualified as expected, for

the Champions' Cup final in Brussels on May 29, even though Juventus lost 0-2 to Bordeaux.

Rapid, which has been a regular in Europe since it competed in the first Champions' Cup in 1955-56, took a 3-1 first-leg lead to Moscow and increased the advantage after just three minutes through Czechoslovak veteran Antonin Pankcenka.

Dynamo drew level when Boris Pozdnyakov scored with a fine shot from the edge of the penalty area in the 29th minute, but the Austrians were never seriously threatened.

If Rapid ultimately lifts the trophy, it may have reason to thank the Glasgow Celtic supporter who hit one of Rapid's players with a missile during a torrid second round second-leg tie in Scotland last November.

Rapid lost that match 3-0, to "lose" 4-3 on aggregate, but UEFA ordered the game to be replayed

But the
Bor
Juvel

and the Austrians 1-0 at Old Trafford. The Viennese ap unconcerned by a crowd of 55,000 in the stadium and they put the Muscovites' red enka, who missed a first leg, beat Pru crisp shot.

Dynamo forced a spell after Pozdnyakov but lacked the fir scorer Valeri Gass out the game after cautions earlier petition.

Two other play yellow cards — I and Bulanov of Dyn Everton's astor story continued with behind to beat Bay in the Cup-Winn stretch its unbeal games.

But Everton, who Manchester United final at Wembley peared to be in when Dieter Hoene a 37th minute lead. Everton had conce petition.

The West Gern then went the w others this seas shrugged off that with second-half g Sharp. Andy Gray ven.

The two teams after the first leg i While Everton, 1985 and running English League ti fered a 2-1 defeat had its lead in the to one point.

Holder Liverpo of Turin duly ap ensure the 34 Champions' Cup v ide a second suc Italy showdown. Liverpool, while penalties to win fourth time last se



What a proud day for Malta when it drew 0-0 last week with mighty Czechoslovakia in their World Cup qualifying match. Here Czech goalkeeper Borovicka (left) stops one of many Maltese attacks by Malta striker Len Farrugia.

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Bad cartilage can't stop Bergers' ace

Stuart Stevenson sees a lot of himself in Charlie Egan. "He's a strong runner, he bites at defenders' heels and he's always in there to pick up the crumbs," says Stevenson who, after only 10 months in Australia, has established himself as one of the top strikers in the National League.

Is he as fast as Egan? "You'd have to arrange a sprint," he says, "but with my bad legs and bad back, he'd probably beat me."

He's only half joking, for he's resigned to having a cartilage removed at the end of the season. "It doesn't worry me much during games, because I blot it out mentally, but after a game, I've got to ice it, and I have to do a lot of exercises during the week," he says.

Heidelberg-Alexander coach Brian Garvey has set a 10-goal target for each of his forwards — Stevenson, Steve Winn and Scott Patterson — and a five-goal target for each midfielder. After only seven games, Stevenson already had scored six goals. He and Egan, with nine, were the top two scorers in the NSL. That was before last Sunday's game between Heidelberg and Hellas.

"But just because I've got close to my target, it doesn't mean I'll stop scoring. I've got to go for as many as I possibly can get. My contract's up at the end of the season, and I want not only Heidelberg, but every club in Australia to be interested in me."

Stevenson, 23, is sponsored by Heidelberg until the end of 1985. His visa is being renewed every six months. "I want to get permanent residency, but I believe it's harder to get now. That's why I have to make a big name for myself — to make it a bit easier," he says.

It took him quite some time to hit the goal trail after arriving from Scotland last year. In fact, he scored only one goal in league games, leading up to the finals. Then he cut loose, and he's now one of the most feared strikers in Australia. He goes for everything, and he's afraid of no-one. He looks fearsome!

"At first, I was trying to do too much work, rather than getting into scoring positions," he says. "And when I did get into position, I'd blow it. Now I don't put in as much hard work, but I'm concentrating more on getting into the positions, and I've been successful."

Stevenson is described as "shocking" the defence of Makedonia when Heidelberg recently beat Makedonia 4-1.

Stevenson scored a hat-trick that day.

It was lack of experience and professionalism, and lack of communication, as much as the sending-off of Charlie Yankos, which prevented Heidelberg from beating Hellas in the Southern Division final last year, Stevenson says.

"Even after Charlie had been sent off, we could have held onto our 2-1 lead had we shown enough professionalism. But some of the younger players lost a bit of confidence and we as a whole were unable to say: OK, we'll leave only two up front and pull back to consolidate the lead. Theo Selemidis went to the sweeper's position, then



● He can take it and he can give it. Heidelberg star Stuart Stevenson (right) is sent flying in this aerial battle with South Melbourne Hellas stopper Steve Blair. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Stevenson close to Garvey's 10-goal target

By LAURIE SCHWAB

team now, all the other players are more on their toes. Steve Tasios lost his place to George, and now everyone's thinking: If I don't pull my weight, I'll be out, and Tasios will be in. Some of the players — me included — get a bit complacent, thinking they'll get a game automatically, that's why you need someone breathing down your neck all the time."

Much was made of Stevenson's axing from the team during the Buffalo Cup night series, which Heidelberg went on to win. "I wanted to go to the Rod Stewart concert, and Brian Garvey said OK, providing it wasn't on a training night. I went ahead and got tickets for a Wednesday, but Brian decided to have a Wednesday session that week. I told him I'd already bought the tickets and that I was going, and we fell out over it. Luckily, I got back into the side a week later, and there are no ill feelings at all. I have a lot of respect for Brian as a coach."

Stevenson, Fawcner coach

Gus Macleod, Juventus striker Joe Sweeney, Heidelberg left back Steve Marley and Juventus right back Peter Lewis all played for Scottish Junior League club Pollok where Stevenson scored 21 goals in the 1983-84 season. Previously he was in the first-team pool of Premier League club Airdrie, without actually breaking into the senior team.

In 1979, at the age of 17, he went to the U.S. to attend the University of Southern Illinois on a football scholarship, and with Stevenson scoring 10 goals over 25 games, the team won the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championship. He also did a general studies course at the university, but homesickness prompted him to go back to Scotland, even though NASL club Minnesota Kicks was interested in signing him.

After his successful season with Pollok, he had offers from Hamilton Academicals, Ayr United and Heidelberg-Alexander. Striker Derek Lea, who had returned to Pollok from Heidelberg, told him he'd enjoy Australia, so he decided to give it a go.

If he goes back to Scotland, he wants to take a championship medal with him — not to mention the \$1000 Boral Bricks top scorer's award.

WIN'S TOPS!

an of again.
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ccer. ABOVE LEFT: You won't get past me, mate.
res? TOP RIGHT: It was inside the box, ref. I saw
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Santillana

athinaikos with a 1-0 semi final
athletic victory in Athens,
Mark Lawrenson scoring after an
hour.

But Cup winners' Cup-holder Ju-
ventus had to withstand a fierce
comeback by French champions
Bordeaux before qualifying for its
third final appearance in Brussels
on May 29.

Juventus took what appeared a
comfortable 3-0 lead to France but
eventually scraped through by a
single goal after Dieter Mueller
and Patrick Battiston reduced the
deficit in the 24th and 79th min-
utes.

Liverpool, seeking its fifth
Champions' Cup victory, was with-
out its goalscoring sensation Ian
Rush who had missed two domestic
matches because of a knee in-
jury, but John Wark, scorer of 23
goals in 32 European games, re-
covered from a stomach strain in
time to play.

Captain Phil Neal lined up for
his 72nd European match despite a
broken nose.

Jacek Gmoch, the Polish-born
coach of Panathinaikos, had issued
a warning that he would have his
revenge for his team's 0-4 first-leg
loss and, indeed, Liverpool coach
Joe Fagan was moved to remark
after the game:

"The players did a magnificent
job of containment because Pan-
athinaikos played very well in-
deed."

For the only goal of the game,
Lawrenson scored an unfield ex-

Champion's Cup

IN BORDEAUX: Bordeaux (France) 2 Juventus (Italy) 0 (1-0).
Scorers: Dieter Muller (24th), Patrick Battiston (79th). Attend-
ance: 40,000. Juventus won 3-2 on aggregate.

IN ATHENS: Panathinaikos (Greece) 0 Liverpool (England)
1 (0-0). Scorer: Mark Lawrenson (60th). Liverpool won 5-0 on
aggregate.

UEFA Cup

IN SARAJEVO: Zveznicar Sarajevo (Yugoslavia) 2 Videoton
(Hungary) 1 (1-0). Scorers: Zeljeznica - Bahtic (7th), Curic
(72nd); Videoton - Csubay (87th). Attendance: 37,000. Video-
ton won 4-3 on aggregate.

IN MADRID: Real Madrid (Spain) 3 Internazionale Milan (Ita-
ly) 0 (2-0). Scorers: Santillana (12th, 42nd), Michael Gonzalez
(59th). Attendance: 110,000. Real Madrid won 3-2 on aggrega-
te.

Cupwinners' Cup

IN LIVERPOOL: Everton (England) 3 Bayern Munich (West
Germany) 1 (half-time 0-1). Scorers: Everton - Graeme Sharp
(48th minute), Andy Gray (72nd), Trevor Steven (86th); Bayern
- Dietrich Hoess (37th). Attendance: 49,476. Everton won 3-1
on aggregate.

IN MOSCOW: Dynamo Moscow (Soviet Union) 1 Rapid
Vienna (Austria) 1 (half-time 1-1). Scorers: Dynamo Moscow -
Pozdnyakov (29th minute); Rapid Vienna - Paneka (3rd). At-
tendance: 55,000. Rapid Vienna won 4-2 on aggregate.

changed passes with Irish
colleague Ronnie Whelan, then
slipped the ball past Panathinaikos
goalkeeper Thomas Lafitis from
close in to take the aggregate
score to 5-0.

Though Thanasis Dimopoulos
and Dimitris Saravakos came close
in the 65th and 71st minutes, Liver-
pool had long since imposed its
mastery on the Greeks.

Apart from the final outcome of
their ties, both Liverpool and Ju-
ventus will be equally pleased
none of their star names will be
missing in Brussels because of
suspension.

Scotts Kenny Dalglish, Alan
Hansen and Kevin MacDonald
were among six Liverpool players
cautioned earlier in the com-
petition and another yellow card in
Athens would have meant auto-
matic suspension.

Juventus, too, was relieved to
see French scorerer Michel Pla-
tini and World Cup midfielder
Marco Tardelli escape suspension.
In Bordeaux — although six other
players were cautioned in a torrid
90 minutes.

While the Italians will probably
start narrow favorites to lift the
trophy in Brussels, just as Roma
did against Liverpool last season,
Juventus will not have forgotten

how it fell apart in the 1983 final
against Hamburg in Athens.
That was the second occasion
Juventus finished runner-up — it
lost to Ajax in 1973.

Bordeaux coach Aime Jacques
had promised a more determined
approach from his talented side
after its first-leg disaster against
Juventus in Turin.

"It was not our tactic that was
in question, rather the way it was
applied. The players really lacked
physical form and therefore deter-
mination."

"It was our fault we were
beaten 3-0 and not that of (Michel)
Platini of Juventus," he said.

Platini, the French midfield
maestro who guided his country to
a European championship triumph
last year, had expected a tough
match in Bordeaux.

"A three-goal advantage should
be a safe margin. We must be
careful in the first half hour," he
had said.

Videoton became the first Hun-
garian side to reach a European
final since Ferencvaros lost to
Dynamo Kiev in the 1975 Cup Win-
ners' Cup final.

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Abonyi or Watkiss for Rockdale?

Ilija Takac quit as coach of Rockdale Linden last week due to health reasons and former Soccerroos Attie Abonyi and Johnny Watkiss are the front runners for the vacancy.

Takac coached Rockdale for two seasons, taking the club to a win in last year's Grand Final against Inter Monaro.

Jimmy Trajceviski, Rockdale's young president, was stunned by the resignation and was full of praise for the work done by Takac, whose successor will be appointed this week.

Meanwhile, only Canterbury and Fairy Meadow played their fourth round match last weekend, with the other games falling foul of the big downpour in Sydney.

Melita Eagles took the points last Thursday at Jensen Park to go to the lead in the NSW State League, while Fairy Meadow jumps into the third spot after taking a point from Canterbury at Arlington Oval on Sunday.

Bankstown 1 Melita 4

Scores: Meerabani (B), Farugia, Allan, Wilson, Vial (ME). Venue: Jensen Park.

MELITA: Mullen 7, McPherson 7, Wilson 7, McAusland 7, O'Rourke 6, Griffiths 6, Farugia 5, Lating 6 (Vial 4th, 7). Walker 5, Allan 5, Hensman 5. BANKTOWN: Not available.

With goals in place at last, Melita and Bankstown battled through mud and slush in a deferred first round match with the Eagles showing far more enterprise in front of goal.

The only thing that pleased Eagles supporters was win.

English trio available

Three top English players want to come to Australia.

David McCarthy, 19, 6'2", can play either in defence or in midfield. He has been a professional at Coventry and Crewe and is available to come to Australia at short notice if required. His phone number is Sheffield 46 4109. His address is 27 Oxapring Bank, Herries Road, Sheffield S5 8NR, England.

Martyn Hirst, 23, is a midfielder who has played professionally with Bristol City. His address is 47 Leighton Road, Southville, Bristol BS3, England.

Jeff Woods is an experienced goalkeeper. He has played over 200 games with Charlton and also has played with Colchester and Exeter, Happy Valley in Hong Kong, and in Denmark and Finland. He's a trained computer operator and his phone number is (392) 21 5081. His address is Flat E, St Loya's Court, Womford Street, Exeter, England.

NSW State League with ALEX VESIC



Canterbury2 Fairy Meadow 2

Venue: Arlington Oval. Scores: Fontana 44th, 55th, Kirwan 6th, Douinis Pen. 78th.

CANTERBURY: Hummell 8, Karaspiros 5 (Antonopoulos 6), Perna 6, Efthymiades 6, Hantzis 6, Anagnostopoulos 5 (Peta 5), Fernatis 6, Borges 6, Silva 5, Douinis 5, Kirwan 6.

FAIRY MEADOW: Young, Chilly, Jones, Berringer, Morlando, Paul Richardson, Mowbray, Gerald, Baker, Fontana.

After beating Manly and Rockdale, Fairy Meadow came to Arlington Oval with clear intentions of getting yet another two points but suffered

an early setback when Paul Kirwan made his way into the box to head past Young in the sixth minute.

John Karaspiros made an error close to half time to allow Fairy Meadow back into the game. His back-pass found Glen Fontana lurking close to the penalty area and scores were level.

Karaspiros, sent off the previous week against Auburn Uruguay had the dubious distinction of being replaced at half time with Antonopoulos coming on at rightback.

A cross by Gerald and good finishing by Fontana saw Fairy Meadow go into the lead 10 minutes after half time. Canterbury looked beaten at that stage, with Fairy Meadow looking dangerous.

However, with only 12 minutes to go, an indiscretion inside the Fairy Meadow Penalty area gave Canterbury the chance to snatch a point. Louis Djounis took the resultant penalty and made it 2-2.

WILL FAIRY MEADOW RIP SHARKS APART?

Fairy Meadow V. Sutherland Memorial Park

SUNDAY

Fairy Meadow and Sutherland are sharing second place in State League at present and both sides will be bent on snatching the points here.

Meanwhile, after beating Manly and Rockdale, at Corimal, must have a fair chance of taking the Sharks to the cleaners. However, it is difficult to discount the fighting spirit of this Cronulla outfit.

Baker and Fontana already are well known among Sydney defenders and special attention will be given to both as well as to Roberto Gerald. On the other hand, Craig Hall could pose a few problems for the locals with his speed while the return of Jimmy Webber may even turn the tide for Sutherland.

Uruguay V. Melita Eagles

Mona Park SUNDAY

This enthusiastic State League newcomer will fall at Mona Park to Melita Eagles.

Any other result would be a major upset; apart from the fact that it would make me look like a fool.

Melita defeated Bankstown after playing very poorly with its forwards not even getting on the scoresheet.

One wonders what would happen if Walker, Hensman and Griffiths fired on all cylinders. For Uruguay, O'Shana looks like The Lone Ranger up front, but his enthusiasm could prove a problem for the Melita defence.

Ku-Ring-Gai V. Rockdale

Parklands SUNDAY

There will be no respect paid to the visitors this week.

end in spite of their high rating from last season. Despite the loss of Tracey and Jeffery, Ku-Ring-Gai has strung together some nice displays to take full points against Fairy Meadow and points from Manly and Uruguay.

Still, the side lacks punch up front and is lucky to be meeting Sutherland at a time when six players are missing from the visitors line-up from last year.

Ross Brown has lost his touch, Ilija Takac has resigned, while Risteviski, Karanilovski and Trajanovski still are nursing injuries. It is too much for Rockdale to overcome.

Manly Warringah V. Canterbury

Cromer Park SUNDAY

Before the start of the season I rated Canterbury as the easy beats of State League. However, with the arrival of Raul Blanco and his South American contingent, the side has taken on a new look and has claimed four points out of four matches, scoring 10 goals and conceding 10 in the process.

So are we to get goals galore at Cromer? I would say so.

The speed of the Manly forwards could be the undoing of Canterbury, particularly through the middle.

Manly has a very poor start to the season and needs to win to get among the leaders. And the side can do just that here with Leak and Campbell doing most of the damage.

Avala V. Narrabeen

Knights Park SUNDAY

Due to the wash-out last weekend, Avala is yet to travel away from Knights Park and will play its fourth match in succession at home. It shouldn't make too much of a

difference to the result and Avala should win.

Narrabeen, after a fine display against Melita in the first 45 minutes at Melita Stadium, crumbled due to some fatal errors at the back.

Avala, on the other hand, has conceded only three goals and scored six in the process, showing that its attack, with Glen Jeffery at the helm, can do a lot of damage.

It will be interesting to see, should the rain persist, if Narrabeen can match Avala in the wet. Twice last weekend the side trained in atrocious conditions in preparation for the games to come.

Bankstown V. Polonia

Jensen Park SUNDAY

This battle of the wooden spoon candidates at Jensen Park could be an entertaining game. Polonia, with its new recruits, could be a stumbling block, not only to Bankstown but to future opponents.

I expect the game to be drawn with both sides scoring a goal not because of the exceptional qualities of their forward lines but some poor defensive work!

Overseas

Despite all their troubles, Werhampton Warriors have offered Tommy Docherty a new one-year contract.

Eight members of France's 1984 European Championship winning side, Didier Six, Max Bossis, Alain Giresse, Dominique Rocheteau, Jean Tigana, Bernard Lacombe and Patrick Batiston, have been awarded the Order of Civil Merit. Michel Platini received the more prestigious Legion of Honor late last year.

Feyenoord's Ruud Gullit is the Dutch Footballer of the Year.

Aberdeen's loss to Dundee United in the Scottish Cup semifinal was its first defeat in that competition since February, 1981.

Tony Barton, manager of Aston Villa when it won the European champions' Cup three years ago, has resigned from Northampton Town, last of the 92 English League clubs.

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Joe Spoljar was meeting with the St Albans Dinamo committee as we went to press and rumor was rife that Spoljar would be sacked and Tony Vrzina appointed manager-coach.

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Dinamo's finest day so far this season came a few weeks back when it defeated Fawknar at Smith Reserve but my sources tell me that last weekend's 2-3 loss to Northcote was met with great displeasure by a number of Dinamo committeemen, who then called the meeting with Spoljar.

Northcote also made a very tentative approach to Vrzina a couple of weeks ago, not to replace Jimmy Pyrgiolos as coach, but to become club manager.

However, should Spoljar and Dinamo part company, then it's odds-on that Vrzina will take over.

Luck certainly hasn't been on Spoljar's side this season as he's been unable to field a settled combination and frankly, Dinamo needs another two top class players to really establish itself in State League. But the club is well supported and shouldn't have any problems getting the players it needs, should it decide to buy.

Dinamo takes on Frankston Pines on Saturday at Montefiore Reserve in what will be a really big challenge for the visitors as Pines are starting to get their act together and loom as definite top four candidates for mine.

Peter Thurlow will be available after suspension and seems certain to come into the Pines starting line-up, after all, he had tea with the coach last Sunday night. Sorry, Peter.

Gus Macleod's job at Fawknar definitely isn't on the line. Despite the presence of Bruce Boyle on the reserves bench last Saturday, resplendent in baseball cap and a tracksuit with the word "coach" prominently displayed, the way Fawknar is going, Boyle may have to wait a few years before breaking into the senior coaching limelight. Incidentally, Boyle is filling in for Fawknar assistant coach Billy Milne, who is overseas.

Fawknar faces one of its biggest tests of the season on Sunday at Smith Reserve when it meets State League champions Morwell Falcons.

The battle between Fawknar's central defensive duo, Frank Macleod and Cesare Frattore, and Morwell's twin strikers, Russell Athersych and Ian Sartori, should be well worth watching. And there's little love lost out on the park when Boyle and 1984 Rothmans Medal winner, Jim McLean of Morwell, meet.

Both sides boast some fierce competitors. They can play too, but there's nothing surer than that this will be a bruising encounter.

Big Emil Bruns was in superb form against Albion Turk Gucu last Saturday and with Graham Tutill sweeping, will have to contain Fawknar's Cozzella and Ian Loughnane, no easy task. Cozzella and Loughnane both are quick and sharp. Both can score. It should be a hell of a battle.

There's still no word yet on John Little's move to Polonia. Officials from Polonia and Shepparton Makedonia, Little's last club, were meeting this week to try and thrash things out.

Janusz Przybyla and Leszek Gogorczuk still are sidelined through injury but midfielder David Gibson came on as a sub in the second half against Knox last weekend, so he seems certain to be in Polonia's line-up for Sunday's clash with Springvale City at Raleigh Reserve.

City's start to its first season in State League has been abysmal but if its players can keep their heads up, results should come, although Polonia deservedly will start favorite here.

Tommy Traynor was appointed coach of Albion Turk Gucu last week and the club finalised the transfers of Radosav Jovicic from Footscray JUST and Naser Eminovski from Brunswick Juventus. Both players had been training with Albion for the past few weeks.

Traynor has a huge job on his hands and facing Box Hill at Selwyn Park on Saturday won't make things any easier.

Croydon should beat Knox at Croydon Park on Sunday. Alex Livingston played up front against Western Suburbs last weekend and did well, but it's in midfield that Croydon appears to hold a decided edge here and the home team should get enough of the ball to create chances for its front runners.

SCHIPANO STRIKES

BELL PARK O ELTHAM 1 (Schipano 21st). Victorian Second Division match at Bell Park, Saturday.

ELTHAM: Carey 8, Anagnostou 7, Cochran 7, Haddie 7, Moulos 8, Curcile 8 (Starface 62nd, Haddie 6, Cubley 7, Schipano 8, Norton 8).

BELL PARK: Vanjik 7, Mazza 8, Thompson 8 (Rhodes 78th), Train 7, Tutton 6, Smilovski 8, Wattors 9.

Milla B, Bond 8, McIntyre 6, A. Vanjik 6.

Eltham recorded its first ever win at Bell Park through a Tony Schipano goal.

Bell Park had the bulk of the play in midfield but over the passing and Eltham had plenty of time to get players back in defence.

Schipano's goal came from nothing. He appeared to have lost the ball but regained control and cleverly lobbed it over Vanjik from the edge of the box.

Grimwade switch pays off

Waverley City 3 (Grimwade, Gameras, Wilcox). Dandenong City (Nagy), Victorian Second Division match at Gardiner's Creek Reserve, Saturday.

Waverley City: Darch - Coulter, Patterson, Dickson, Wilson - Storey, Jackson (Keenan), Wilcox - Grimwade, Gameras, Droudie (Turner).

Waverley City restructured its forward line against Dandenong and produced three goals - its best return in league matches this season.

Grimwade, playing as a wide striker instead of in his usual midfield role, put Waverley ahead with a precise shot after 15 minutes. Waverley dominated the first half, but its enterprising attacking play was not converted into goals.

This pattern continued after the interval. Waverley failed to score some clearcut chances, but then had a major obstacle removed - Dandenong's goalkeeper was sent off for allegedly using abusive language toward the referee. Ironically, this spurred a Dandenong revival and substitute Les Nagy scored against the run of play.

Waverley regained concentration and finally scored the goals which killed off Dandenong's enthusiasm. Tommy Gameras poked home the ball in a goalmouth scramble and later supplied the pass for Norm Wilcox to head home.

BARKERS BITTEN

MOOROOLBARK 0 YALLOURN 1 (Paine 88th). Victorian Third Division match at Esther Park, Saturday.

Injuries took their toll at Esther Park when the Barkers went down to league leader Yallourn 1-0.

The only goal of the match came late in the game off the boot of Gavin Paine, the former Mooroolbark striker who has trialled with English club Coventry City.

The first half saw Yallourn take control through its midfield with Mark Hiriart, Sacha Pavolic and Trevor Howard.

continually feeding good balls to strikers Paine, Dale Collins and Glen Kirstine.

The second half saw a revitalised Mooroolbark. Twice in the second half the Barkers had chances to convert.

In the 88th minute, Dave Kneppach latched onto a ball and put in a screaming shot at goal only to see Louis Rodriguez pull off a fantastic save.

In the dying minutes, Mick Hiriart got the ball, placed it to right winger Kirstine who passed to Trevor Howard. Howard placed the ball behind the Mooroolbark defence and Paine raced in and volleyed home.

400 UP FOR RYAN

Ronnie Ryan played his 400th game for Victorian Provisional League club Clayton in its first Division clash with Williamstown two weeks ago.

Ryan joined Clayton in 1968 and made his first team debut the following year. He always has played at left back. He won the club's best and fairest award in 1979 and has been runner-up five times. He captained the first team in 1975 and 1979.

Noted as a fine composer and a fine club man, Ryan has been on Clayton's committee for the past two years. He was presented with an inscribed silver tankard before Clayton's

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Buffalo State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MORWELL FALCS	4	2	0	13	5	10
CROYDON	4	2	0	12	4	10
POLODIA	3	3	0	17	6	9
FAWKNER	4	0	2	14	4	8
Box Hill	3	2	1	14	8	8
Thomastown	2	3	1	11	11	7
West Suburbs	3	1	2	10	10	7
F'ston Pines	2	2	2	13	11	6
Northcote	1	3	2	7	10	5
Knox City	2	1	3	5	12	5
St Alb Dinamo	2	0	4	9	18	4
Albion TurkGucu	1	1	4	4	10	3
Springvale	0	1	5	5	12	1
R. Wilhelmina	0	1	5	4	15	1

SPRINGVALE CITY 0 FAWKNER 1 (Cozzella 10th) at Ross Reserve, Saturday.

SPRINGVALE CITY: Perry Mur 6 - Bannion 7, Adams 9, Luyten 5, Fitzpatrick 6 - Luca 6, Malt 5 (Matthews 77th), Bentley 7 - D'Amico 7, Nelson 6 (K. Humble 67th), Bell 7. Coach: Ian Greener.

FAWKNER: Terzini 6 - Jolevski 6, Macleod 7, Fattore 6, Mancinelli 7 - Boyle 7, Quigley 6, Salasino 5 - Palinkas 6, Cozella 7 (Loughane 6, Hobson 72nd). Coach: Gus Macleod.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Adams (Spring), 2 Boyle (Fawk), 1 D'Amico (Spring).

ST ALBANS DINAMO 2 (Rastovic 9th, Morovic 65th) NORTHCOTE 3 (P. Constantinou 15th, Patsakos 25th, Filippis penalty 85th) at Churchill Reserve, Saturday.

ST ALBANS DINAMO: M. Grlic 6 - S. Grlic 6, Ramljak 5 (Radman H.T. 6), Bozic 7, Pozar 6 - Dezic 6 (Bokljacic 60th), Lerotic 7, Culina 6, Rastovic 6 - Bruno 5, Morovic 7, Joe Spoljar 7.

NORTHCOTE: Giannopoulos 7 - Patsakos 6, Cutler 7, Boziki 7, Kouremenos 5 - Moshidis 7, Wilson 7 (inj. Bekiaris 75th), Toro 7 - P. Constantinou 7, Patsakos 7, Filippis 6. Coach: Jimmy Giannopoulos.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Patsakos (N), 2 Bozic (Dinamo), 1 Boziki (N).

MORWELL FALCONS 3 (Cassar 6th, Athersych penalty 40th, Sirtion 86th) ALBION TURK GUCU 0 at North Crinigan Reserve, Saturday.

MORWELL FALCONS: Blasby 7 - Palermo 7, Bruns 9, Tutill 7, Train 7 - T. van Baar 7, MacLean 6, O'Callaghan 7, Cassar 8 - Athersych 7, Sirtion 7, Coach: Jimmy Dunne.

ALBION TURK GUCU: Cipi 6 - Behic 6 (Bennett 75th), Gatt 6, Jovicic 7, Douglas 8 - Purcell 6, Reilly 7, Alfonso 7 - Patsaman 5, Gilmour 5, Erinoski 5. Coach: Tommy Traynor.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Bruns (MF), 2 Douglas (Albion), 1 Cassar (MF).

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 1 (Nyholt 4th) FRANKSTON PINES 3 (Thomas 20th, penalty 60th, Webster 35th) at Jubilee Park, Sunday.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Lee 4 - Haupt 7, Corke 5, Murray 5, Wemyss 6 (Bent 60th) - Meyer 6 (inj. Burton 60th), Storm 8, Shannon 6 - Wells 7 (inj. vau. Edmond 70th), Nyholt 7, Stewart 7. Coach: Cor Tezzer.

FRANKSTON PINES: Janssen 7 - Cumming 7, Lawson 7, Armstrong 6 (Miller 35th), Ferris 7 - Cooke 7, Cullen 7, Ross 7 - Dick 7 (McGinnigle 70th, sent off 80th), Webster 8, Thomas 8. Coach: Danny McMinimes.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Webster (Pines), 2 Thomas (Pines), 1 Nyholt (RW).

THOMASTOWN 2 (Lakic 20th, B. Coyle 70th) BOX HILL 2 (Roodhouse 25th, Azzopardi 50th) at Partridge Reserve, Sunday.

THOMASTOWN: Raponi 7 - Di Berardino 7, Cosentino 7, Arcoraci 7, Carfora 7 - Lakic 7, Di Martino 8, B. Coyle 8, Franceschi 5 (N. Constantinou 65th) - Flaherty 8, Fragale 7. Coach: Joe Wilson.

BOX HILL: Harris 6, Basie 7, McMillan 7, Roodhouse 7 - Azzopardi 8, Taylor 5 (Lawler 70th), Ramos 5, White 6 (McPhee 80th) - A. Humble 7, Verocchia 7. Coach: Keith Webster.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Di Martino (T), 2 Azzopardi (BH), 1 B. Coyle (T).

KNOX CITY 0 POLONIA 0 at Egan Lee Reserve, Sunday.

KNOX CITY: McTurk 7 - Loy Saisi 7, Smith 7, Bissinger 8, Byrne 8 - Pilbeam 6 (McLachlan 65th), Murray 8, Wild 7 - Tunstall 7, Pate 7, Hawthorne 6. Coach: Duncan Smith.

POLONIA: Dziakowski 7 - Liparski 7, Smolarek 7, Innes 7, Vojna 7 - G. Czarnik 6, P. Czarnik 6 (Gibson 65th), Avian 6, Kaloric 6 - Auld 6, Werszawski 6. Coach: Eddie Reid.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Bissinger (Knox), 2 Byrne (Knox), 1 Murray (Knox).

WESTERN SUBURBS 1 (Stenson 51st) CROYDON CITY 1 (Singleton 15th) at Ralph Reserve, Sunday.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Tachis 7 - Hammill 7, Dimovski 6, Espinoza 7, Howe 7 - K. Coyle 8, Kakantoni 7, Beattie 6 - Bouzas 7 (Malt 65th), Stenson 8. Coach: Jimmy Condliffe.

CROYDON CITY: Whiteside 7 - Brown 7, Singleton 8, O'Reilly 7, Tansey 8 - McDonald 7, Taylor 6 (Ollerton H.T. 6), Kerr 7, Beech 7 - French 7, Livingstone 8. Coach: Peter Ollerton.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Livingstone (C), 2 Stenson (WS), 1 K. Coyle (WS).

SCHIPANO BEST PLAYER AWARD

Schipano Home Furnishers are sponsoring our 1985 State League Player of the Year award. The winner receives \$1,000 worth of furniture of his choice.

Leading votegetters:
13 - Livingstone (Croydon)
9 - MacLean (Falcons), Culina (Dinamo)
8 - Costantino (Thomastown)
7 - McMillan (Box Hill)
6 - A. Humble, Harrison (Box Hill), Werszawski (Polonia)
5 - Boyle (Fawkner), Bruns (Falcons), Bissinger (Knox), Dimovski (Suburbs), Adams (Springvale), Webster (Pines)
4 - Wilson, Giannopoulos (Northcote), Tansey (Croydon), Verocchia (Box Hill), Cozella (Fawkner), Paate (Knox), Stenson (Suburbs), Bannion (Springvale), Morovic (Dinamo), Raponi (Thomastown)
3 - Livingstone (Croydon), Adams (Springvale), Webster (Pines), Flaherty (Thomastown), Dimovski (Suburbs), Lakic (Thomastown)
2 - Palinkas (Fawkner), P. Czarnik, Auld (Polonia), Filippis (Northcote), Webster (Pines), Flaherty (Thomastown).

VSF TRAVEL CLUB AWARD

The VSF Travel Club, in conjunction with Ametco Trave, is sponsoring our 1985 State League Top Scorer award. The winner receives a return trip to Singapore, flying Thai international.

Leading scorers:
8 - A. Humble (Box Hill)
6 - Athersych (Falcons), Morovic (Dinamo)
5 - French (Croy), Werszawski (Polonia), Thomas (Pines)
4 - Cozella (Fawkner), Sirtion (Falcons), McGuinness (Suburbs), Lakic (Thomastown)
3 - Palinkas (Fawkner), P. Czarnik, Auld (Polonia), Filippis (Northcote), Webster (Pines), Flaherty (Thomastown).



Fawkner, sponsored for \$18,000 by Preston Motors Mitsubishi, back row, left to right: Frank Macleod, Cesare Fattore, Colin Quigley, Tony Costa, Rob Terzini, Fabio Angele, Andy Heap, Ralph Petrucelli. Front: Frank Sabbatino, Joe Palinkas, Bruno Cozella, Peter Boyle, Gary Hobson, Ian Loughane, Fabio Mancinelli, George Jolevski.

McGorian to Springvale?

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Springvale 0 Fawkner 1

Scorer: Cozella 10th, Venue: Ross Reserve.

Springvale is rumored to be interested in transfer listed Sunshine-George Cross striker Mick McGorian.

Certainly, McGorian would make a big difference up front but the Vales also are falling down in other areas. The word is that class sweeper Keith Adams might be used more in midfield from now on with perhaps Ged Bannion switching from right back to sweeper. But that's just talk at this stage.

Well, Fawkner got the points but frankly, failed to impress as a title contender. Still, the season is young and with Andrew Heap and Fabio Angele to return, coach Gus Macleod will be able to reap the benefits of far more competition among his players for first team spots.

I was impressed with the way Fawkner stopper Frank Macleod handled himself against Springvale. Big Macleod was kicked a couple of times and one of the Springvale players yet to prove himself in State League mouthed off at Macleod, who took it all

in his stride, kept his mind on the game, and did his job well.

The Vales could have got off to a dream start. With less than a minute gone, a long ball was played over the top of the Fawkner defence and allowed to bounce inside the area. Eddie Bell and Rob Terzini confronted each other and Terzini was able to win that battle by fisting the ball out.

But as the first half unfolded, it became clear that the Vales had little idea of how to get the ball forward to Jim Nelson, Bell and Joe D'Amico. High hopeful balls to front

runners confronted by Macleod and Cesare Fattore were the order of the day for Springvale and it didn't surprise when the home team failed to produce good chances in the first half.

The goal that was to settle the issue here came in the 10th minute when Bruno Cozella, unmarked well inside the Vales area, headed superbly past Perry Mur.

But we had a contest on our hands at last as the second half got underway. In the 50th minute, Adams made a superb break, laying the ball off, getting the return, beating the last man then chipping it over to the far post. Dave Luca slid in and struck his shot well only to see the ball beat the diving Terzini and bounce of the far post.

With D'Amico giving Fab Mancinelli problems out wide on Springvale's right and Bannion getting forward at every opportunity, Fawkner's defence found itself with a lot more work to do than in the first half.

Myles to appeal

John "Shocker" Myles will appeal against his six-month suspension as player and coach.

Myles, coach of Heidelberg-Bundoora (Vic) was suspended for playing for amateur club Bundoora although he wasn't registered with the club.

"I was asked to play only because they didn't have enough to make up a team, and I thought it was only a friendly match," Myles said.

"The Bundoora officials admitted to the tribunal that they told me it was a friendly match. Bundoora was fined \$300, but the club has since folded up."

What angers Myles most is that he has been suspended not only as a player, but also as a coach. He fails to see the reason.

Terzini was forced to tip the ball over under pressure from Nelson in the 58th minute and in the 70th minute Bobby Malt blasted his shot well over after Gordon Bentley had let Bell's cross from the right fall for Malt.

John Luyten downed Cozella inside the Springvale area in the 76th minute and referee Lou Hemmes awarded a penalty, but Joe Palinkas struck his attempt against the post.

Two minutes later, Bentley tipped Bell and Bobby Malt, Humble through on the left of the Fawkner area. Bell left the ball for Humble who shot wide when he should at least have been on target.

W. Suburbs 1 Croydon 1

Scorer: Stenson 51st (WS); Singleton 15th (C). Venue: Ralph Reserve.

The strips and boots looked clean enough at the start. The nets seemed to have the right number of holes. There even was a shiny, new ball just waiting to be kicked. So just where did these sides go wrong?

For a start, two hard tackling defences which were quick to nail anything that moved, didn't help.

Add to that two groups of forwards who failed to be in the right position at the right time, and you have all the ingredients to make up the fare that is all too common these days. The football's just okay, but there's not enough goals. That's not to say the sides

didn't put in a lot of effort - they did.

Mind you, Croydon only has itself to blame for not destroying Suburbs early.

On the other hand, the home side pinned Croydon back in its box in the second half and was a shade unlucky not to grab the points.

The Croydon goal was one of those you don't see often. Defender David Singleton, finding himself deep in enemy territory and loose on the left flank, looked up, measured the distance then thumped in a 25-metre drive that was destined for the net the second it left his boot.

There and then, Croydon committed the cardinal sin of not ramming home its advantage. It got its goal, thought it was all over and rested on its laurels.

Western Suburbs changed all that in the 51st minute. Peter Ollerton, on for Ken Taylor, confronted by Billy Bouzas and Keiran Coyle, could not find space to turn and was easily robbed. Jed Stenton picked up the through ball, brushed aside two Croydon defenders and tucked his shot home past an advancing Billy Whiteside.

CAMERON STARS

MORNINGTON 2 (G. Runje 43rd, Wall 71st). MELBOURNE 0 Victorian First Division match at Dallas Brooks Park, Sunday.

MORNINGTON: Radov 7, Pye 7, Mitchell 8, Valt 7, Thomson 7, Paulding 7, Gohy 6 (R. Runje 65th), Cameron 8, Wall 8, G. Runje 6, Smart 6.

MELBOURNE: Barber 6, Degnall 7, Drincovich 7, Barton 7, Wild 6, Theodor 5 (J. Valtos 70th), Bird 6, Tzambala 5 (Edmondson 45th), K. Roberts 6, Ward 6, Heary 6.

Playing down the slope in the first half, Mornington dominated the game putting Melbourne under relentless pressure.

Two good breakaways by the visitors saw them come close in the mid stages of the half when Theodor, Roberts and Ward combined well.

Melbourne was troubled by the excellent wing play on the right by John Cameron. It was he who beat Degnall and Bannion to square the ball to Goran Runje who slipped it past Barbos in the 43rd minute.

The second half saw a more determined Melbourne which pinned in Mornington in the first 20 minutes of this period. The home side's defence stood firm though and clear cut chances were few. Mornington came forward in the 71st minute and a high ball came into the Melbourne area. The Melbourne keeper came out to collect under no pressure, but he fumbled and dropped it straight to the feet of a surprised Kevin Wall, who only had to steady and place the ball past the stranded Barbos.

SUNBURY HITS BACK

NUNAWADING CITY 1 (Greenwald 23rd) SUNBURY UTD 2 (Magnano 46th, Twine 76th). Victorian First Division match at Mahoneys Reserve, Saturday.

NUNAWADING CITY: Madjar, Brown, L. Deane, Burt, S. Deane, Middlemas, Greenwald, Nallia, Moyle, Pate, West (Mullett 64th). SUNBURY UTD: Paton, Skinner, P. Baranic, Kremers, Blackley (Law 83rd), D. Baranic, Tuzine, Gracchan, Catterson, Magnano, Traikovski.

Sunbury fought back from a goal behind at half time to earn a narrow victory.

Catterson forced Madjar to make a fine save in the 4th minute, but at the other end, Middlemas almost found the corner of the net with Paton just pushing the ball round the post.

Nunawading took the lead in the 23rd minute when Brown

played a short free kick to Nellies whose cross found S. Deane in front of goal. His shot was blocked but Greenwald, following up, calmly shot past Paton from 10 metres.

Magnano was proving a slippery customer up front for Sunbury but he missed a good opportunity to equalise from close in. In the 32nd minute, Catterson was unlucky when his fierce shot struck the post immediately after the break. Magnano equalised with a fine goal. Receiving the ball on the half way line he made ground to the edge of the area. With defenders backing off he picked his spot from 20 metres and gave Madjar no chance.

Sunbury took the lead when Catterson cleverly hooked the ball across goal from an acute angle. Magnano, at the far post, was able to get the ball back across goal and Twine netted with a firm header.

SELECTIONS

VICTORIAN	DIVISION TWO
Saturday: DEWTON v. Nth. Dandenong, DONCASTER v. Castrol City, SUNBURY v. Richmond, New Park Rangers v. Narre Warren City (Ipsw).	Saturday: SEAFORD UTD v. Nth. Sturtians, Maiton v. WARRHIE CITY, GLENVIEW CITY v. Utd of Melbourne, ALTONA UTD v. Haverhill Utd, NTH DANDENONG v. Geelong Utd, Sth Yarrs v. BINGLEY Utd.
Sunday: BROADMEADOWS v. Melbourne, MORNINGTON v. ALTONA Gate, Mansfield v. WERRIBEE	DIVISION THREE
Saturday: Royal Richmond v. Hamlyn Rangers (Ipsw), Eltham v. Nth. Geelong (Ipsw), SANDHURST v. Bul. Park, SM. MICH. v. ALTONA City, STH OAKLEIGH v. Ringwood Utd, Dandenong City v. KESBOR, WAVERLEY CITY v. Coburg.	Saturday: PORT UTD v. Sth. Melbourn v. Bannan Utd (Ipsw), BALACALVA v. Laker, Macleod Park v. CLARINGH/RODONG, Carron Utd v. Richmond Utd (Ipsw), WEST MEADINGS v. Melbourne Utd, West Utd v. STH SPRINGVALE.
DIVISION THREE	AMATEUR LEAGUE
Saturday: Ballan v. Essendon City (Ipsw), PORT MELBOURNE v. Springvale Utd, Kewring v. YARRAVILLE, Geelong v. PRINCE ALBERT, COBD v. Heidelberg, Sandhurst v. YALLOUP, Moorabbin City, MORROOLBAIR v. Prahran.	Sunday: MELBOURNE UNI v. Larkins Utd, Endeavour Hills v. EAGLES Utd, Vermont v. MACCADI, Northern Suburbs v. Old Scotch (Ipsw), WARELEY UTD v. Epping Thistle, Bayside City v. ASCOT ST MARKS.
DIVISION FOUR	DIVISION TWO
Saturday: Cithen Hill v. Balcorn (Ipsw), STHA v. Holland Hill, BODDIE v. Berrara, FENTREY GULLY v. East Brunswick, LAOR Utd v. Ardar, Keyborough v. LANGWARRIN, Greenborough v. BRIGHTON.	Sunday: Colongong v. RMIT (Ipsw), BURN TONG v. Yarra THE DIAMOND VALLEY v. Ringwood, PHILLIP INSTITUTE v. Digons Park, Nth. Melbourne v. Colongong City (Ipsw).
DIVISION ONE	DIVISION THREE
Saturday: Chelsea v. Wintonia (Ipsw), EAST GEORGE v. Abbotford, Maiton City v. CLARING, Central City v. Punters Vale (Ipsw), West Brunswick v. HAWTHORN, WILLIAMSTOWN v. Raport.	Sunday: OAKLEIGH UTD v. Northern Utd, RAAS Point Creek v. OPA (Ipsw), East Altona v. RESERVION, EAGLES, EAST RICHMOND v. Delany Park.

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IS SANTOS SET FOR STARDOM?

Sunshine-George Cross, Green Gully or Footscray J.U.S.T. — where will 17 year old Keilor Austria midfielder Pedro Santos go next year?

Santos was set to join J.U.S.T. before leaving with his parents on a trip back to his native Uruguay late last year. He returned in January this year to find that J.U.S.T. had changed presidents and it was with former president Zika Karic that Santos had reached agreement.

"A guy from Green Gully spoke to me last year and I used to go to school with Gerry Maxwell, Peter Katicich and a few others in Gully's youth team, so maybe I'll try my luck there," said Santos.

But playing in Second Division this season won't do him any harm.

"Second Division is very physical. Often it's the tougher team that wins but certainly a bit of skill helps."

His coach at Austria, Billy McIntyre, thinks that the youngster has more than just a bit of skill.

"He could be special. His attitude is the key," said McIntyre.

"His main weakness is simply believing in himself. He sees himself as a right back and certainly, he has fine qualities for that role. He's not afraid, he's quite quick off the mark, he beats players comfortably without being over-elaborate and he kills the ball like a typical South American — he's got a great feel for the ball."

"But I can see him developing into an outstanding midfielder. I went to the recent Green Gully-Croatia match and I honestly could see young Pedro fitting into that environment, keeping in mind that he's still young and he's playing in Second

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE



• The Santos connection at Keilor Austria — Pedro senior (left) and Pedro junior



Pedro Santos junior in action

Division. He's got a lot of things going for him but I keep coming back to his attitude. That's going to make or break him and make me either a liar or a good judge."

The Santos connection at Austria is rock-solid. Pedro senior, a former Uruguayan junior representative, has been with Austria for over 10

years and coached Pedro junior during that time.

"To tell you the truth, I felt a bit of pressure when Dad was coaching me and I think that having Billy as coach is better. I'm a lot more relaxed under him," said young Santos.

The youngster came to Australia with his family in 1972 and started off in Aust-

ria's under 10's. He made his first team debut when he was 15, so how does the three-year senior "veteran" think that Austria will go this season?

"We started off badly but we're picking up. It's going to take a top team effort for us to get promoted but we've got the players to do it."

New men for Dutch, Howe facing axe?

Dutch trainer Leo Beenhakker last week named an initial 17-man squad for the Netherlands' World Cup qualifying match against Austria in Rotterdam today (Wednesday).

Beenhakker made small changes in the line-up which bet Cyprus 7-1 in a European group five match in Amsterdam in February. He dropped defender Peter Boeve and forwards Marco Van Basten and Ruud Gullit.

The new men are defender Frank Rijkaard, who played in the national side last year against Hungary, and midfielder Michel van de Korput, whose last match for the Netherlands was against Spain in 1983.

Beenhakker still has to decide between defenders Edo Ophof, who has a knee injury, and Sonny Silooy.

If Ophof is pronounced fit after a practice match on Sunday, he will get a place. The squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: Hans Van Breukelen, Joop Hiele.

DEFENDERS: Edo Ophof, Sonny Silooy, Frank Rijkaard, Ernie Brandts, Ben Wijnstekers, Adrie Van Tiggelen.

MIDFIELDERS: Dick Schoenaker, Michel van de Korput, Willy van de Kerkhof, Michel Vaake, Erwin Koeman.

FORWARDS: Simon Tahamata, Rene van der Gijp, Willem Kieft, Peter Houtman.

West German international midfielder Rudi Bommer is being transferred from Fortuna Dusseldorf to cup finalist Bayer Uerdingen next season, the clubs said last week.

No fee was disclosed but Bommer, 28, who won the last of his six caps against Argentina last September, is thought to be costing Bayer 880,000 marks (\$447,900). The Krefeld club meets Bayern Munich in the cup final on May 26.

Richie Barker, manager of English Second Division struggler Notts County, was dismissed last week.

Barker, a former Notts player who only succeeded Larry Lloyd

Overseas round-up
with PAUL MOON



• Tommy Docherty — offered a new contract by Wolves

In November, had long discussions with club chairman Jack Dunnett and said it had been mutually agreed to terminate his employment.

There is no bitterness on my part about the way things have ended, but our situation here was never helped by serious injury problems," said Barker. "I wish Notts well and still believe it can get out of trouble."

English soccer is witnessing its ritualistic end-of-season blood-letting that consigns failed players and managers to the doldrums.

Chief among the tall poppies under the axe is Arsenal manager Don Howe.

Disgruntled fans at success-starved Highbury, under the banner of the Arsenal action group, are trying to pressure the club's board to sack Howe.

"We will be asking fans not to buy season tickets until we get a new manager at Arsenal," says group spokesman Alan Esparza.

But vice-chairman David Dein insists sternly: "The Arsenal board make their own decisions and not under the influence of outside parties."

However, history is not on Dein's side. Howe's predecessor, Terry Neill, claims in

his just-published book, "Revelations of a Football Manager", that the Arsenal action group was responsible for his sacking last year!

As expected, Brazilian national team coach Macedo Evaristo omitted all overseas based stars from his squad to contest South American World Cup Qualifying Group Three games commencing on June 2. Only three players, Oscar, Eder and Carlos, survive from the 1982 Mundial party.

Willibert Kromer, coach of struggling Fortuna Dusseldorf, received a nasty shock when returning from a scouting trip in Austria — finding that his former assistant, Dieter Brui, had replaced him. Brui, 34, is the youngest coach in the Bundesliga.

Wolfgang Roff of SV Hamburg has been added to West Germany's national squad.

Bill Asprey, manager of English first division struggler Stoke City, has been suspended for an indefinite period by the club's board of directors for what they term "events on and off the field."

Eintracht Brunswick sacked its Yugoslav coach Aleksander Reistic.

A new trophy, named in honor of the late UEFA president Artemio Franchi, will be inaugurated on August 29 in France, when the host nation meets Uruguay. The trophy is to be contested every four years by the European and South American champions, with the venue alternating between the two continents.

Sam Weaver, a star with Newcastle United and England in the early 1930s, has died, aged 75.

Real Madrid coach Amancio Amaro has resigned after a series of disappointing results.

Ernie Taylor, one of the great characters of British football in the 1950s, when he played for Newcastle United, Blackpool, Manchester United and England (he one cap was gained in the 3-6 rout by Hungary) died recently. He was 59.

Australian Soccer



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Hermiston lasts 7 minutes, Patikas powers NSW

By RICKY ROSSO

QUEENSLAND 1 (Wheeler 56th). NSW 3 (Patikas 55th & 84th, Kosmina 58th), at Perry Park, Brisbane. Crowd: 5318. Referee: Bill Monteverde 8.

QLD: Wishart 7, Jackson 8, Hermiston (Archer 7th, 7), Hunter 8, Niven 7, Reis 6 (Millman 73rd), R. Stewart 6, J. Stewart 7, Ogden 8, Wright 7, Wheeler 8. Coach: Bruce Stowell.

NSW: Greedy 7, Gomez 8, Robertson 8, Ratcliffe 7, Bertogna 7, Watson 6, McCulloch 8, Savor 6 (Tredinnick 50th), Patikas 9, Kosmina 8, Arnold 8. Coach: Alan Vest.

The playing career of

**Man of the match:
JIM PATIKAS
(NSW)**

It was tragic for Hermiston but disastrous for Queensland.

Young premier league full-back Glenn Archer, who had expected to sit on the bench all day for the experience, was suddenly on the field and the Queensland backline had three players under 21 years old.

But the Maroons rallied well and held NSW scoreless until half-time.

They were soon left behind after an exciting spell 10 minutes into the second half.

The period saw Jim Patikas net for NSW, as the young Queenslanders stopped for off-side, Dave Wheeler sensationally equalised, then Kosmina crush the euphoria of the equaliser when he rounded Kim Wishart to put the blues ahead.

Patikas settled the matter in the 84th minute with a fine headed goal.

And it was the unpredictable brilliance of Patikas that caught the eye of national coach Frank Ark, who was in Brisbane to watch the annual interstate clash.

"He stood out. People were asking who he was. He is the type of player we need for the national squad," Ark said.

And sadly for Queensland, who had high hopes for Jackson, Hunter, Niven and Wright to gain Soccer Australia berths, Ark was not impressed with the maroon men. He even said he

Not that it matters much, really. As long as we can produce enough of the 'non-pure' types of migrant background.

And in that field the harvest is rich enough: McCulloch, Crino, Patikas, Katholos, Raskopoulos, Savor, Villani, Gojevic, Manour, Melta, Ilioski, Selendis, Belic, Fabrizio and others.

At the moment, Oscar Crino strikes me as the most brilliant midfielder talent. But I am not sure whether he will develop into a truly great star.

In the late 1970s Gary Marochi was the player I tipped for that greatness, the Warren-sized heights, but he didn't quite make it, for a number of reasons.

Lets hope Crino will get his chance — and will seize it, too.

From page 3

He will use the Murphy-Crino-McCulloch trio whenever he needs three midfielders, adding Watson when he wants four.

But that will be rare: Ark likes to play with a defensive reserve behind his four full-backs and this doesn't allow for four midfielders.

The only other midfielder he will use regularly is Raskopoulos who will then replace Crino.

In whatever combinations and permutations Ark will shuffle his available midfielders — there won't be one 'Australian' among them.

More than any other soccer commodity — yes, even more than strikers — we cannot produce quality pre-bred Australian midfielders.



• Jim Hermiston as NSL Player of the Year

Solving the midfield mystery

Then came the 'world tour'. By now Davidson was missing and so was Cant. In came Crino and Savor.

Of the 12 matches Murphy and McCulloch played, in six for the 90 minutes and in 4 and 2 respectively for part of the games.

Watson had 4 full and 4 part matches while Crino played 3 for the 90 minutes and 7 part games. Six times Crino came on as a sub — either for Murphy or for Raskopoulos.

Personally, I believe Frank Ark already has made up his mind about his midfield, at least for the May and August internationals.



• New South Wales, from left, back row: Alan Vest (coach), Wally Savor, Vic Bozanic, David Ratcliffe, Terry Greedy, John Kosmina, Jim Patikas, Graham Arnold. Front: Grant Lee, Peter Tredinnick, Alex Robertson, Joe Watson, Gerardo Picasso. (Seated), Arno Bertogna, Tommy McCulloch. Picture by CARLOS PICASSO.

a matter of sorting through them during the series and removing any question marks," he said.

Although Lions have performed well in the southern division of the national league, the seven players from the club who took the field for Queensland could not do enough to win Ark's praise.

"The Lions players are good club players but show me one player who is definitely better than any other already in the national squad," Ark said.

"Even Danny Wright, who I have picked before, has lost a lot because of his year off through injury. There was an incident in the second half where he had to go to the hospital to be treated for a head injury. Today, Ratcliffe got the ball."

Despite disappointment at losing, when a win seemed within Queensland's grasp, state coach Bruce Stowell could not criticise his players.

"I was thrilled to bits with everyone. I think if Hermiston had been on the park we would have been better organised. We lost because we lost concentration and the belief in our own ability," Stowell said.

NSW coach Alan Vest was showing despite an interrupted and limited preparation.

"I would like to see more interstate games and I am sure NSW would win a full interstate series. But where would you fit one in under the present programme?"

But Queensland and NSW almost certainly will meet again in Brisbane next year.

VIVA ITALIA!

with ROCKY DI ZIO



Ma di che cosa ha paura questa "grande" Juventus terrorizzata oli perdere?

Questo è un quesito che noi, e molti tifosi della Juventus, continuiamo a porci di settimana in settimana nel vederlo "squadroni" di Margaris giocare come una "squadretta" ossessionata dal fantasma della retrocessione che cerca di rosciare pareggi a tutti i costi per non insabbiarsi nella zona bassa della classifica.

Concesso che l'inizio dell'annata non sia stato tanto favorevole, concesso che l'acquisto di nuovi giocatori e il cambio di ruolo di altri suggeriva una certa prudenza, ormai il campionato è abbastanza avanzato da aspettarsi che tutti i roddaggi e le messe a punto della squadra fossero finite e che la formazione ingranasse la quarta e compiacesse a giocare con la convinzione dei suoi mezzi e con l'autorità che si addice ad una candidatura allo scudetto.

Invece anche domenica scorsa, all'ottava di campionato e contro un George Cross che è appunto una squadretta che cerca di salvarsi a giustificatamente ricorre a qualsiasi stratagemma per rosciare punti, la Juventus è uscita dal campo con un deludente risultato ad acciuffi che in effetti significa la perdita di un punto (non il guadagno di un punto secondo la fallace teoria che un pareggio esterno è un punto guadagnato).

Una squadra imbottita di campioni, o almeno di ottimi giocatori, che si fa imbrigliare da una formazione garibaldina su un nulla di fatto viene meno alla giustificata attesa dei tifosi a fa appunto sorgere la necessità di domandarsi: "Ma di cosa ha paura questa Juventus che gioca con tanta asagerrata prudenza e che sembra essere ossessionata dal non perdere?"

Joe Caruso, il direttore tecnico della Juventus al quale bisogna almeno dar merito di non trovarsi mai a corto di parole quando cerca di giustificare certi aspetti negativi della squadra, parlando della partita contro il George Cross se n'è uscito con una delle sue perle che lo hanno reso famo-

"Domenica scorsa i nostri giocatori avevano paura che dall'erba alta del campo potesse sbucare qualche serpente!" Ovviamente questo è un modo di dire di Caruso per drammatizzare lo stato pietoso del campo di gioco. Ma, senza volerlo, egli ha forse creato con la sua "trovata" un'immagine molto appropriata della mentalità della squadra: una paura esasperata di un pericolo immaginario, di una fissazione quasi, che ratrappisce la squadra e non le permette di esprimersi secondo le sue reali possibilità.

Alla Juventus, dal presidente Schiavolo, all'allenatore Margaris, Joe Caruso, all'ultimo dei giocatori, sembra che tutti abbiano sviluppato la paura di perdere, un po' come chi non riesce a mutare perché è terrorizzato di annegare!

Lo abbiamo detto prima e siamo costretti a ripeterlo fino alla noia che la Juventus può e deve fare molto di più per giustificare le sue ambizioni di scendere in campo con la sua non indifferente campagna acquisti, per giustificare la richiesta di maggior sostegno morale e finanziario dei tifosi.

Quattro pareggi in otto partite non costituiscono un record di cui essere entusiasti, il non perdere da sette settimane è una verità molto reale, quale bisogna aggiungere che in otto partite si è vinto solo tre volte.

Anche per la classifica il vantaggio dei pareggi è solo superficiale perché quattro pareggi corrispondono alla stessa perdita di punti di due sconfitte.

I pareggi, per intenderci, sono da considerare positivi per le squadrette che cercano di rosciare punti, non per gli "squadroni" che cercano di vincere il campionato.

I tifosi non possono comprendere le mille e passa giustificazioni che Caruso e sciorinano con tanta convinzione e disinvoltura per spiegare il comportamento della squadra. Anche se tutti i dirigenti calcistici d'Australia recitano la litania che i tifosi sono soltanto incapaci di criticare e che non mettono le mani in tasca per sostenere il club, bisogna ricordare che il calcio è fatto come è fatto e non come certi dirigenti vorrebbero che fosse.

Il bisogno di mettere le mani in tasca nasce soltanto

esta somma di \$6 per il biglietto d'ingresso alla partita (ed almeno altrettanto per lotterie, magliette, cappelli, distintivi, donazioni, eccetera, eccetera).

Se non ci sono abbastanza tifosi per l'unica squadra che rappresenta la numerosa comunità italiana di Melbourne nella massima divisione nazionale e' anche perché la squadra non produce lo spettacolo, le emozioni, il cardiopalma, le soddisfazioni che valgono i \$6 e rotoli per andarla a vedere (e questo ragionamento non vale solo per la Juventus).

Perciò sarebbe ora che i responsabili della squadra, non solo i tecnici, si rendessero conto che il campionato va giocato per il pubblico e che il pubblico pretende da una squadra di campioni partite giocate all'insegna di vincere a tutti i costi (anche rischiando la sconfitta).

E siamo sicuri che se la Juventus abbandonasse la paura di perdere, vincerebbe nettamente la maggior parte delle sue partite, perché, siamo stufo di ripeterlo, ha una vera e propria ossessione di perdere che le impedisce di scendere in campo per dettare legge alla maggior parte della avversaria, imporre il suo gioco e forzare le avversarie sulla difensiva... e se dovesse perdere qualche partita non sarà certo la fine del mondo.

Speriamo che domenica prossima, contro il forte Herdelberg, la Juventus si decida ad uscire dal guscio ed esprimersi con convinzione ed autorità.

Ai tifosi che sono rimasti delusi nelle ultime settimane, e specialmente domenica scorsa, chiediamo che diano alla squadra del cuore un'altra "chance" e dimentichino l'affrettato giuramento di non andarla più a vedere.

Sul campo di casa (con l'erba tagliata alla misura giusta e quindi senza la possibilità di vedere spuntare qualche serpente) i giocatori bianconeri hanno l'occasione ideale per farci rimangiare tutte le critiche, hanno l'opportunità di far andare in visibilio le migliaia di tifosi che accorrono richiamati dall'importanza dell'incontro, hanno l'avversario giusto per far vedere di che pasta sono fatti.

lio, per motivi di cassetta, per tutti i motivi di questo mondo.

Se otto partite non sono state sufficienti ad amalgamare la squadra, a trovare una formula di gioco più redditizia, a creare la giusta fiducia nei propri mezzi, si può soltanto concludere che la Juventus intende usare l'impalpabile come un lungo roddaggio... in preparazione alla Coppa Italia.

E a proposito di Coppa Italia, la competizione di fine anno cui partecipano le squadre italiane di Melbourne, il comitato organizzatore della competizione informa che lunedì 13 maggio, al Croton Italia Espresso sez di Gino Matricardi (530 High Street, Northcote) si terrà l'aprima riunione dei club per organizzare l'edizione 1985 della Coppa.

E' bene che il comitato organizzatore, ed i club partecipanti, vengano a tale riunione dopo un'attenta esame di coscienza sulla recente storia della competizione che sembra stia scadendo di anno in anno principalmente per l'esagerato "attivo sangue" che si è andato creando fra i vari club.

Quest'anno è stato la volta del "caso Triestina" ad esacerbare una situazione già precaria. Il club alabardato, ad onor del vero, non si è mai distinto eccessivamente per spirito di collaborazione e per aver saputo accettare lesaconfite (o le cos' dette ingiustizie) che sono sempre preneventualità di ogni sport, di ogni torneo, di ogni partita.

Il suo atteggiamento per una partita "rubata" (scondo alcune interpretazioni) è stato forse un po' esagerato, ma la reazione del comitato e dell'assemblea dei club all'espressione di insoddisfazione alabardata non solo è stato ancor più esagerata, ma ha annullato nel modo più dispotico che ogni club dovrebbe avere di dire la sua.

Speriamo che si sia toccato il fondo in questa controproducente lotta a dar la zappasui piedi. La Coppa Italia, come concezione e come evento, dovrebbe essere un festival di sportività e di italianità che ogni anno riattizzi il fuoco dell'amicizia e della collaborazione fra i club che, almeno a parole, giurano di voler il progresso di questo

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NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND 9 4-5 MAY

SOUTHERN DIVISION



JOE CAIRNEY

BRISBANE LIONS
VS
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS

at RICHLANDS
3 pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
NUNAWADING CITY
VS
SUNSHINE GEORGE
CROSS

AT VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED

GREEN GULLY
VS
WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS

at GREEN GULLY RESERVE
3pm SATURDAY

YOUTH GAME
GREEN GULLY
VS
FRANKSTON PINES
12.45



DAVID SMALLMAN



GARY McDOWELL

STH MELB HELLAS
VS
MELB CROATIA

at MIDDLE PARK
3 pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
STH MELB HELLAS
VS
MELB CROATIA
12.45

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS
VS
HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER

at OLYMPIC PARK No 2
3pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS
VS
HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER
12.45



EDDIE CAMPBELL



CON OPASINIS

PRESTON MAKEDONIA
VS
BRISBANE CITY

at CONNOR RESERVE
3 pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
PRESTON MAKEDONIA
VS
CROYDON CITY
12.45

ADELAIDE JUVENTUS
VS
FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.

at OLYMPIC SPORTS FIELD
2.30 pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
FAWKNER
VS
FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.

AT VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED



JOE CARROLL

NORTHERN DIVISION

CANBERRA OLYMPIANS vs APIA LEICHHARDT
at NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE 3 pm SUNDAY

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD vs SYDNEY CITY
at ADAMSTOWN OVAL 2.30 pm SATURDAY

MARCONI vs INTER MONARO
at MARCONI STADIUM 1 pm SUNDAY

SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs PENRITH CITY
at PRATTEN PARK 3 pm SUNDAY

ST GEORGE vs WOLLONGONG CITY
at ST GEORGE STADIUM 3 pm SUNDAY

BLACKTOWN CITY vs SYDNEY CROATIA
at MARCONI STADIUM 3 pm SUNDAY